J. 28539
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R. Y.
G.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 15 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU,
APR 16 1890
Wm Cridler

No. 1059.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 3. 1890.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File. aa
APR 16 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

87
1

Honors distributed on the attainment of his twentieth year by the Emperor.

No. 1059.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 3. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The Emperor Kwang Su attained his twentieth birthday on the 26th day of the first moon (February 15,) The occasion was signalized by conferring new honors on nearly all the dignitaries of the Empire. It has been usual for the Vice Roy, Governors, Taotai Generals, Commanders in chief, and various Generals, to come to Peking on such occasions to pay their felicities in person to the Emperor. This year, in accordance with the general reform that has been inaugurated, these officials were ordered not to apply for permission to come to Peking for the purpose indicated.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 15 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU. Mr Cridler
APR 16 1890

No. 1060.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 3. 1890.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File. aab
APR 16 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Some observations showing the improbability of a war in Europe for some years to come.

No. 1060.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 3. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

It may, perhaps, be of some little interest to you to be informed of the opinions of my colleagues here touching the probability or improbability of a European war. At a late dinner given by the German Minister to the Diplomatic body to celebrate the 9th anniversary of the marriage of the Emperor and Empress of Germany it devolved on me to propose the usual toast to their Majesties. I took occasion to review at some slight length, the history of the Hohenzollerns. In alluding to the short reign of Frederick III I incidentally mentioned his well known inclination for peace. In reply the German Minister stated that the Emperor was distinctly in favor of preserving the peace of Europe. In familiar conversations afterwards with some of my colleagues, I found that the general opinion was that there would be no war for some years to come. The usual argument was, that while Russia desired war and counted on the assistance of France, the odds were so much against her that she could not afford to go to war. She would have to fight Austria, Italy, Germany, Turkey, England, and Belgium.

The triple Alliance stands pledged to an offensive alliance. Turkey would be drawn into the war to protect her confines. Belgium would be drawn into the war to save herself being incorporated by France. England would protect Belgium and would assist Turkey against Russia. Under these circumstances Russia will not make war, however much she may object to the complications in Bulgaria and Servia. It seems to me that these ideas are well founded, and that war is therefore unlikely to occur for several years at least.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

4

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 15 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
APR 30 1890

Mr Cridler

No 1061.

Legation of the United States.

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY
APR 23 1890

Peking, March 6th 1890.

Ackd May 6 1890

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject.

Passports, to naturalized citizens.

Synopsis

Sets forth form of Consular certificate and repeats recommendation that a circular issue to Consuls in China.

No. 1061.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 6th, 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch No. 1058, of Feb. 26th last, relating to passports, I have the honor to call your attention to another phase thereof.

Paragraph 135 Consular Regulations 1888 requires that a naturalized citizen applying for a passport shall produce the original, or certified copy, of the decree of Court by which he was declared to be a citizen. The Minister is also required to transmit to the Department, at the close of each quarter, a statement of the evidence on which all passports were issued.

In addition, the forms now in use require that the applicant shall state when and where he was naturalized with the words following: "as shown by the accompanying certificate of naturalization".

It thus appears that the certificate of naturalization should accompany the duplicate application for passports.

If this means that the original

certificate of naturalization shall accompany each application, it is plainly impracticable.

Such certificate could only thus be once used and would probably reach the applicant again after it had been forwarded to the Department. He should have the right to retain the original in his own possession.

I have, therefore, instructed Mr. Crowell, the Consul at Amoy, who has a case in point, that he must require the applicant to exhibit to him the original or a certified copy of the decree of naturalization, and must forward to the Legation two copies of such decree or certified copy, with his own certificate, that, the copies so forwarded are full true and correct.

The following form of certificate has been sent him for use:

"Consulate of the United States
"of America, - - - - . China.
"I hereby certify that
". - - - - - - - - , to me well known
"to be the identical person that
"he claims to be, this day
"exhibited to me the original
"(or a certified copy) of the
"decree of the Court by which
"he was declared to be a
"citizen of the United States,
"and the above and foregoing
"is a full, true and correct
"copy of the said decree."

"Witness my hand
"and the seal of said
"Consulate this --- day
"of -----
" ----------
"Consul."

I renew my recommendation that a circular embodying as full information as possible as to the mode of applying for passports be prepared and sent to all the Consuls in China.

In spite of all the instructions that this Legation can issue, and in spite of my having been compelled to return many passports applications which were defective they still frequently come to this Legation.

Such a circular is absolutely demanded owing to the silence of the Consular Regulations as to the peculiarities on the subject existing in China.

I do not issue it myself because I have no authority to over-rule the Department's order that travel certificates shall run a year, instead of running for the proposed trip only, as they ought to do.

This is the first application that I have had from a naturalized Chinaman. But there may be others, and this class will bring nothing but trouble to the United States authorities in

China. For these reasons I attach some importance to the subject.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 26 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 25 1890
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack by subject & file.
AAA
APR 26 1890

Mr Cridler
✓
28 abs

No. 1062.

Legation of the United States
Peking, March 10. 1890.

Copy to of despatch to
Mr Dent. for Secretary
Apr. 29 '90

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Flag of the Legation placed at half mast for Mr. Walker Blaine.

No 1062.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 10. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have seen in the papers, which have just reached me, that you and the country have suffered an irreparable loss in the death of your son, Walker Blaine, who was identified with the State Department. I have seen also that fatality has pursued you in the death of other members of your family and particularly that of your daughter, Mrs. Coppinger.

I have directed that the

flag of this Legation shall be displayed at half mast during three days on account of the death of your son.

I write to you officially because your son was a a distinguished official of the State Department. But I beg also to tender to you personally my sincere condolence in the manifold afflictions that have befallen you during the past few weeks.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 25 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
APR 26 18 [illegible]

No. 1063

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 14. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

✓ Ans'd 29 Apr

Subject.

Official Bonds. Sureties thereon.

Synopsis

Recommends that a stronger rule be adopted on the subject of sureties.

No. 1106 3.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 14. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to offer some observations on the question of the giving of official bonds by the Consuls of the United States. Section 1697 R. S. U. S. 2d Ed. provides that sureties on official bonds shall be "permanent residents of the United States." Pars. 33 and seq. of the Cons. Reg. 1888 provide for the form of said bonds. At folio 56 of Cons. Reg. 1888, forms and instructions are given. The 4th section of the note to the said forms is that the sureties must be citizens of the United

States and permanent residents of the United States. The 7th section provides that in the certificate attached to the bond, the name of the State, County, and town, in which the sureties reside shall be stated in the certificate. In the case of the Consul at Tientsin, I have lately had occasion to decline to certify to the sufficiency of his bond, because it appeared from the bond itself that the sureties were residents of Tientsin, and nothing in the bond shewed that they were "permanent residents of the United States". What the exact meaning of the words "permanent residents" may be, it is difficult to determine. That a "permanent resident" of the United States who is temporarily in China may become surety on a bond is not to be denied. But it should appear on the face of the bond that such surety is really and truly a resident of the United States and that his absence therefrom is only temporary. It is plainly within the purview of the Government that in the event of breaches of the condition of an official bond, suit may be brought on the bond in the United States. To secure jurisdiction in an action at law personal service of the summons is necessary. This can be secured only by the actual residence of the sureties in the United States. The only other mode of obtaining jurisdiction would be by attachment. This remedy does not result in a personal judgement but only in an order that the property attached by the Marshall shall be sold to pay the judgement. If the Department permits residents of China to become sureties on official bonds, in the event of breach, the suits brought by the United States against defaulting officials, would necessarily be brought in the Consular Courts. While I do not exactly know what meaning Congress attached to the words "permanent residents," I do not believe that it would be good policy to accept bonds from Consular, or other officers, with sureties who can only be reached in the case of breach, by suit in the courts of the countries to which they are accredited. Here in China, of course, suit could only be maintained in the Consular Courts against foreigners. But in Western and Christian countries this extra-territorial jurisdiction does not exist.

It cannot be understood that the United States ever intended to provide for remedies against its defaulting officials in any other than its own Courts. We have in China a large body of people who are to all intents and purposes permanent residents in China. These people have large material interests in China in the conduct of their business, and, practically, the missionaries, once established here, remain during their lives. How could jurisdiction ever be secured over these people in the home courts?

And if jurisdiction cannot be secured at home, is it desirable or proper that they should be permitted to become sureties on official bonds?

It is altogether probable that by the use of the word "permanent" Congress meant those persons who really and truly reside in the United States, and not that large class of non-residents who maintain their nationality for their own benefit, but who have passed their lives in foreign countries and never really intend to return to the United States, and do not, in any wise, assist in bearing any of the burdens entailed by their own Government. But, however this may be, the difficulty might be reached by the adoption of the Department of State of a rule that persons residing either temporarily or permanently in foreign countries will not be received as sureties on official bonds, and that no person will be approved as such surety unless at the time of the signing of the bond he is a citizen of the United States and an actual and permanent resident of the United States.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 25 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
APR 25 1890

No. 1064.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 14. 1890.

Mr. Denby

to the

Secretary of State.

Copy of despatch & gazette 84 to Sec Treasury
April 28/90

One copy with despatch to Mr. Scanlan Apr 26, 90

Subject.

Reports sending forward "Customs Gazette No. 84, October – December 1889," being returns of trade for the last Quarter of that Year.

No. 1064.

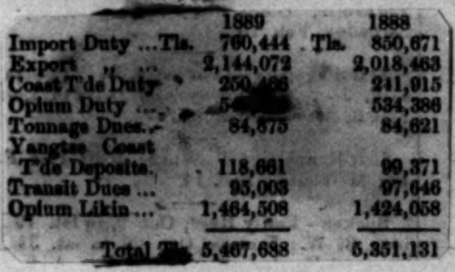
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 14. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have sent to you under a separate cover "Customs Gazette No. 84 October — December 1889," being returns of trade for the last quarter of that year. These returns show that business in Corea improved, that it fell off in Kowloon, and in Lappa, and that it improved in the Treaty Ports of China. The total collection at the nineteen Treaty Ports was Haikwan

Taels 5,467,688 as compared with Taels 5,351,131 in the same quarter in 1888. The subjoined table shows the different heads under which this collection was made:



		1889		1888
Import Duty ...	Tls.	760,444	Tls.	850,671
Export ,, ...		2,144,072		2,018,463
Coast T'de Duty		250,466		241,915
Opium Duty ...		[illegible]		534,386
Tonnage Dues..		84,875		84,621
Yangtse Coast T'de Deposits.		118,661		99,371
Transit Dues ...		95,003		97,646
Opium Likin ...		1,464,508		1,424,058
Total	Tls.	5,467,688		5,351,131

It thus appears that the import duty has declined while the export duty and Opium duty, and Likin have increased. An examination of the special returns made by the Commissioners will shew that in Chefoo, Pakoi, Kinkiang and Canton, the import of piece goods was well maintained. It declined in Shanghai.

The annual report of the Customs will soon appear,

on which I shall comment
at the proper time.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
Charles Denby

Mr Cridler

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
APR 26 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 25 1890
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. Appears to close the incident satisfactorily -
APR 26 1890

✓ 280b

No. 1065.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 14th 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Further correspondence between the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body and the Tsung-li Yamên, touching the book "Death Blow to Corrupt Doctrines" and its author.

No. 1065.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 14. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that upon being succeeded by H.E. Mr. von Brandt, German Minister, as Dean of the Diplomatic Body, I requested him to reply to the Yamên's despatch on the subject of suppressing the book called "a Death Blow to Corrupt Doctrines". A translation of that reply was sent you in my despatch No. 1000 of Novr. 11.89. On the 12th of Decr. 1889, Mr. von Brandt addressed the Yamên in a despatch:

of

1/65 of which a copy is herewith enclosed. I furnished him the facts on which he based his despatch. He asks that orders be issued that the blocks on which the book was printed be siezed and burned. He informs the Yamên that these blocks may be found at Peking! He charges that the book was printed and distributed by one Jung, a native of Luan Shou, who holds the rank of Secretary to the Grand Secretariat. On the 7th day of this month the Yamên replied to this communication

2/65 a translation of which is, herewith, enclosed. It states that on the receipt of my communication it put itself in communication with the Superintendents Trade of the Northern and Southern Ports and requested them to forbid the circulation of the book and to have the plates destroyed. After receiving Mr. von Brandt's communication, it took further steps. It found that the author of the book had been punished with banishment for some other crime long ago, and that Jung has nothing to do with the book. It is of the opinion that the prohibition against the book having been forwarded every where, it will have no further propagation.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosures
No. 1 Mr. von Brandt to Yamên.
" 2 Yamên to Mr. von Brandt.

Copy

Enclosure 1 in No 1065.

Peking, December 12th 1889.

Your Highness:

In the name of my Colleagues and myself, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Highness and Your Excellencies' letter to His Excellency the United States Minister, dated Nov. 8th, and referring to the measures adopted by the Yamên against the pamphlet entitled "Death-blow to Corrupt Doctrines".

My Colleagues and myself fully appreciate the spirit in which Your Highness and Your Excellencies have met us on the subject, and it is for this reason, and under the conviction that the Imperial Chinese Government will be very willing to do it's utmost to suppress a publication which must be considered by every righteous man as a spot upon the fair fame of Chinese literature, that we venture upon some further proposals in this direction.

Your Highness and Your Excellencies mention in your letter of November 8th that already in the 9th year of Tung-chih (1870) stringent orders had been issued to the Ministers Superintendents of northern and southern trade to suppress the distribution of the book and cause the blocks to be burned.

This time the book has been reprinted and republished not in some faraway province but at Peking itself or in it's immediate neighborhood, do Your Highness and Your Excellencies not think that it would be advisable, under the circumstances that orders should be issued to have the blocks seized and burned and that the authorities of the Capital should be instructed to report within a certain time that these orders have been executed.

Also the book has been republished and distributed by a man named Wu-yung, a native of Luan-chou and holding by purchase the rank of Secretary to the Grand Secretariat. Does there exist no law in China punishing an action which has more than once been designated as a criminal one by the Chinese authorities, and are there no means to deprive an offender against the laws of his own country and the peace of nations of his official rank even if he should have absconded to avoid arrest and punishment? The man Wu-yung is a very insignificant person, but there are a great many stupid people to whom a Secretary of the Grand Secretariat, even by purchase, seems a personage of no mean official and political importance. If Wu-yung is allowed to go unpunished and even retain his official rank will it not appear to many as if the Chinese Government approved of his action or, at least, did not disapprove of it?

My Colleagues and myself, while placing these remarks before Your Highness and Your Excellencies, are fully convinced of the desire of the Imperial Chinese Government to do justice and to stamp out, forever, a malicious attempt to create disturbances the consequences of which might prove very grave. We, therefore, await with confidence the answer of the Yamên to the suggestions contained in this letter.

I avail etc,

Enclosure 2 in

Copy.

Peking 7th March 1890.

To H.E. Mr. von Brandt,
etc., etc., etc.,

On the occasion of Y.E.'s visit at our Yamên on the 3rd inst., you spoke to us about the book "Death-blow to Corrupt Doctrines" said to have been written by the Secretary Wei-yung.

Y.E. remarked that the book was one calculated to excite in the highest degree hatred against the Christian Faith and requested us to make further enquiries and adopt measures (of repression).

You also mentioned that the communication addressed to the Yamên in this matter had hitherto remained unanswered.

Our Yamên has now the honor to offer the following in reply:

In October last (9th month of the Chinese year) we received a letter from H.E. the Minister of the United States in which he requested to take the necessary steps for the suppression of the book. Our Yamên thereupon put itself into communication with the Supt of Trade of the northern and southern ports and requested them to forbid, through the authorities placed under them, the further circulation of the book, to discover the plates from which it had been printed and to have them destroyed.

After having received Y.E's communication on the subject we have still further pushed our investigations after this book. Finally it has been found that it is not at all the work of Chu-yung but that it had been written twenty years ago by a man named Tiui, who has been punished long ago, for some other crime, with banishment.

If in the book recently re-published Wu-yung has been again named as the author, we have to do again with the assumption of a false name by some other person, Wu-yung having, indeed, absolutely nothing to do with the whole matter.

We think ourselves, moreover, that the prohibition against the book having been forwarded everywhere the same will find no further propagation.

In forwarding the above answer to Your Excellency, we have the honor to be ....

Cards of the Ministers
of the Yamēn.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 25 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
APR 25 1890

No. 1066

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 14. 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

One copy to Treasury
Apr. 26. 90.

One copy to Hydrographic Bureau. Navy Dept
April 26/90
[illegible]

Subject.

Forwards "List of the Chinese Light Houses, Light Vessels, Buoys, and Beacons for 1890.

No. 1066
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 14. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward to you today under a separate enclosure two copies of the "List of the Chinese Light Houses, Light Vessels, Buoys, and Beacons, for 1890." Of all the work done by the Imperial Maritime Customs, that of lighting the exceedingly dangerous Chinese coast has proved the most beneficent. A glance at the maps accompanying the list will show the immense work that has been done on the coast, the islands, and the Yangtze.

I

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 25 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
APR 25 1890

No. 1067.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 14. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

✓ One copy of Report to Secy of War. Apr. 26.

✓ One copy of Report to Secy Treasy Apr. 26.
Cir. J. Cor

Subject.

Reports sending forward two copies of Medical Reports prepared by the Customs.

No. 1067.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 14. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to send you, under a separate cover, two copies of the Medical Reports of the Imperial Maratime Customs for the half year ending 30th September 1887. These reports are prepared by Physicians in the employment of the Customs. At each port and at Peking, a competent medical man is employed by the Customs to attend to all its employes. These reports are designed to secure accounts of the local peculiarities of disease in the open ports and of diseases that are rarely or never encountered out of China. Special attention is devoted to Leprosy. It will be seen by reference to the reports from the different localities in China that the health of the members of the foreign community is ordinarily good. These reports contain, also, meteorological tables prepared at the various ports. They are translated into Chinese and are a potent means of medical education to native physicians.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 7 1890

To Treas
9 May

No. 1068

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 18. 1890.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Copy to Treasury - aaa
MAY 6 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject:

The going to the United States of Chinese subjects other than laborers.

Synopsis

The case of Dr. Howe. He is advised to procure a certificate from the Taotai at Shanghai. The Minister is disinclined to apply to the Yamên for a certificate.

No. 1068

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 18. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that a Chinese subject having the English name of Alvin F. Howe, applied to me today for information as to the mode by which he can gain access to the United States.

He is a Christian, a Physician by profession, and an employe of the Methodist Mission at Peking. He desires to complete his Medical studies in the United States under the patronage of the Methodist Board of Missions. He speaks English very well, and is in all respects reputable.

It is likely that his Board will apply to you to facilitate his landing in the United States. To enable you to come to a decision in his case, I make a few observations touching the general subject, so well as this particular case.

I have never made but one application to the Yamên for a certificate for a Chinese subject who desired to go to the United States. The Yamên's reply to that application will be found at page 223 Foreign Relations of 1887. The Yamên therein states that it has never issued such a certificate, and, impliedly, it grants my request as a compliment to me. The question whether the Yamên should issue such certificates, or whether the local authorities should issue them, is held up for future determination. The law on this subject will be found at page 116 United States Statutes at Large 1883 – 1885. Vol. 23. It will be seen by reference to it that taking into consideration the peculiar language of China, its form of government, its immense population, the general ignorance of foreign laws and customs, the requirements of the Statute are almost impossible of performance. According to the law, the certificate must be issued by the Chinese Government, must be in English, and must cover an accurate history of the applicant. I presume that no certificate complying with these conditions has ever been issued by the Chinese Government. I have often wondered how, without such certificate, Chinese subjects ever gained the right to land in the United States. I have stated to Dr Howe and his friends here, that I deemed it inadvisable to apply to the Imperial Government for the certificate described in the statute of 1884. Some of the reasons why I do not feel inclined to raise this question now are the following: the danger that, since the passage of the "Scott Law," the Yamên would refuse to act, the liability of precipitating a discussion of the whole Chinese Question, a disinclination on my part to embark in such a discussion without prior instructions from you, and the feasibility, as I conceive, of accomplishing the desired purpose through the local authorities. I take it that the "Government of China" does ~~not~~ necessarily mean the Imperial Government, but may be construed to mean a local official, such as a Taotai, who represents the Government in the district where the applicant resides.

It would evidently be impracticable to adopt any other interpretation. I have, therefore, advised Dr. Howe to proceed to Shanghai, near which place he resides, and to secure a certificate from the Taotai, and have it vised, as required by law, by the Consul General. If you construe the law differently, and hold that the certificates, provided for by the act of 1884 must be issued by the Imperial Government at Peking, I will have time to so inform Dr. Howe, who will not leave until July.

If it is your desire that I shall apply to the Yamên to frame definite rules under which Chinese subjects can go to the United States, I will take up that subject.

While it must be conceded that the whole question is involved in doubt, and that, in the course of events, some definite solution must be arrived at, still I am inclined to favor the policy of "laissez aller," and to go slowly, and to look to precedent rather than to sudden and positive decisions.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 6 1890
Lw Crider

No. 1069
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 18. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
MAY 5 1890
Copy, with one of the duplicates, to War Dept. for Mississippi River Commission
Ack accordingly, referring to our recent disastrous Mississippi floods as justifying our interest in the general question.
AAA

10 May
12 May

Subject.

Opinions by a foreign Engineer regarding methods adapted to repair breaches in the Yellow River.

No. 1069.

Legation of the United States,
Peking March 18. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

As the Department has always manifested a great interest in the work done on the Yellow River, I am induced to send you two copies of an address lately delivered in Shanghai by Mr. G. J. Morrison describing his personal experience in a trip to the River while the work of repairing the great breach in 1887 was going on. Mr. Morrison differs with all the foreign Engineers in this that he approves of the plans adopted by the Chinese, and thinks that no general scheme can be adopted which will set matters to right once for all.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosures
Two cuttings from the North China Herald.

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

Mr Crowder

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File. abh
MAY 6 1890

No. 1070.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 19. 1890.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 6 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
A proposed Railroad to
run to Kirin.

Synopsis
The military necessity for
this road shewn in order
that the Sungari River
may be guarded and
protected.

No. 1070.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 19. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Some discussion is being had in the local papers touching the necessity of building a railroad from Kaiping through Shan-Hai-wan to Moukden and Kirin which is worthy of attention. Kaiping is the present terminus of the only railroad in China, which runs from Tientsin to a point near Taku, and thence to Tongshan where the Kaiping Mines are located. Kirin is in Manchuria on the Sungari River.

Moukden

Mookden is in the extreme northern part of China not far from the line of Corea. The Sungari enters into the Amoor. The Russian seaport, Vladivostock, is at the extreme south of Russian possessions, and is close to the Corean line. Russia controls both banks of the Amoor up to the point at which the Sungari enters it. The Sungari is said to be navigable to Kirin. It flows entirely through Chinese territory. It will thus be seen that Russia holds the key to Manchuria, Northern China, and Corea. Russia can at any time send a flotilla up the Amoor and the Sungari to the heart of the dominions of China. Under existing conditions, the Amoor being closed to China, she is absolutely incapable of offering any substantial defense to an attacking force ascending these two rivers. With existing means of transportation it is nearly impossible for her to concentrate men and material for the defense of Manchuria, or Corea, or her own Northern border. Some experiment was made two years ago, in the effort to transport machinery for opening the Moho mines in North Western Manchuria. Russia objected to the transportation of machinery up the Amoor. It was with great difficulty that China finally secured the right to bring this machinery up. This incident has had considerable influence in China. The discussion now going on in the newspapers, particularly the Chinese Times, is bringing to the consideration of the Chinese Authorities the absolute necessity of building a line of rail road to Kirin. It is a question of supreme urgency, which, in any government but that of China, would be immediately solved by building such a road, by establishing a strong military force at Kirin, and by providing a flotilla for the Sungari. China might then control the communications of Russia, as Russia now controls those of China. Such articles as those alluded to create great attention in Russia, and correspondingly in China. (Certainly the proposed road is the first that ought to be built, because in addition to giving access to valuable mines it is a military necessity. But, it is impossible to foresee what the Government will do, or whether it will do any thing. I have the honor to be,)

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

BUREAU OF STATISTICS
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 6 1890 Mr Cridler

No. 1071.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 21. 1890.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Referred to Bureau of Statistics
Ack. as Mr. Scanlan may advise
MAY 6 1890 aaa

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject.

The opening of Chung-King to foreign trade.

Synopsis

Agreement by Great Britain to abandon right to navigate upper Yangtze by steamers. Effect on trade of opening Chung-King. Probability of steam navigation being assured.

No. 1071.

Legation of the United States,
Peking March 21. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In section 111 of the Cheefoo Convention (see Chronicle and Directory for China and Japan 1890, page not given because the book has not reached me, a copy was ordered to be sent you) it is provided as follows: "The British Government will, farther, be free to send officers to reside at Ch'ung-King to watch the conditions of British trade in Ssu-ch'uen. British Merchants will not be allowed to reside at

Ch'ung-King or to open establishments or warehouses there, so long as no steamers have access to the port. When steamers have succeeded in ascending the river, so far, further arrangements can be taken into consideration." Under this convention the British Government has kept for some years an agent at Ch'ung-King, but the port has never been opened to foreign trade, because no steamer has ascended the Yangtze to that point. Recognizing the importance of securing the trade of the vast regions, including Tibet, lying west of Ch'ung-king several efforts have been made to navigate the upper Yangtze by steamers. In this connexion see my despatches Nos. 357 of date April 27. 1887 and 401 of July 5. 1887. The Chinese Government has always opposed the execution of the above cited clause touching the navigation of the Yangtze by steam. In my despatch No. 1025 of Janury 7, I informed you that the Customs had bought the Kuling, a steamboat devised and built by Mr. Little for this navigation. The object was to prevent this boat from ascending the river. But, the Chinese recognized that the plan of buying each boat that was designed to go up the river would be expensive. It is said here that they have now concluded with the British Government an agreement that the right to navigate the river by steamers shall be abandoned, and in consideration of this agreement they have agreed that Ch'ung King shall be opened to foreign trade. The practicability of navigating by steamer the upper Yangtze is not denied. In Tonquin on the Red River such navigation is maintained successfully, and the Australians have likewise succeeded in reaching Raub by steamers. Our own Country furnishes similar examples. There can be no doubt that an American stern-wheel steamboat could ascend the gorges of the Yangtze between Ichang and Chung-King. Under the "favored nation" clause in the Treaties all foreign nations are entitled to the benefit of the concession made to Great Britain,

and the time may come when
it will be the duty of the
American Minister here to
demand the privilege of
exercising the right that
Great Britain has abandoned. omit
But, it may be well
[enough] to "[go slow", and] omit
await the effects that the
opening of Chunking will
produce on trade.
That these effects will be
beneficent is assured.
Szechuan now takes one
fifth of the woolens
imported at Shanghai,
and one eighth of the
principal cottons.
Kweichowfu, between Ichang
and Chung-King, is one of
the most important likin
stations in China. The
anticipated diminution of
collections at this point
furnishes one reason

for Chinese opposition to the opening of Ch'ungKing. It is known to the Department that under the system existing in China the payment of an import duty takes goods into an open port.

When the goods reach an open port, the payment of half duties under the Transit Pass system (see my despatch No. 1013, Decr. 9,) take the goods free of likin to any point in the interior. Thus up to the borders of Tibet foreign goods will henceforth be transported from Ch'ung-King without paying likin. It is plain that trade will be increased, and that the demand for transportation by steamers will in a few years become so great that China

will

be compelled to concede that steamers may ascend the Yangtze to Ch'ung-King.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU Mr. Cridler
MAY 5 1890

ck by no [illegible]

No. 1072.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 22. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledges Despatch
489 to 493, inclusive

No. 1072.
Legation of the United States,
Peking March 22. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches

No.	489	Jany.	17.	1890.
	490	"	"	"
	491	"	"	"
	492	"	"	"
	493	"	20	"

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

ck Ej no file

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
Mr Cridler
MAY 5 1890

No. 1073.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 22. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledges #494, and explains that no dispatches numbered #152 and #434 were ever sent from this Legation.

No. 1073.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 22. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in acknowledgement of your despatch No. 494, of January 24. 1890, wherein you call my attention to the fact that despatches Nos. 152 and 434 of this Legation were never received, to make the following statement.

No despatches bearing the said numbers were ever sent from this Legation. How the error occurred that these two numbers were passed over, I am unable at this time to say. Possibly despatches so numbered were prepared and afterwards cancelled. Possibly it was a simple error of numbering. I very much regret the occurrence of these errors. I suppose an entry in your archives that by inadvertence no despatches so numbered were ever sent will straighten out the matter.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED

D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
ck. by Number and File.
MAY 6 1890 aab

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DIPLO TU
MAY 6 1890

No 1074.

Legation of the United States.
Peking March 23rd 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State

Subject.

The Emperor's pilgrimage to the tomb of his ancestors.

Synopsis

Some observations on the worship of ancestors. A curious custom of extortion at the city gates.

No. 1074.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 23rd 1890.

To the Honorable,
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

It is perhaps worthy of mention that the Emperor goes to the Eastern Mausolea to worship at the tombs of his ancestors the 15th of the Chinese 2nd Intercallary Month, corresponding with our April 4th. This is one of the most solemn and gorgeous observances of the Chinese Government. The Emperor goes in great state largely attended and the cost of his trip is variously estimated at from one to two millions of taels.

These mausolea are situated east of Peking at a distance of about one hundred miles. I am one of the two or three foreigners who ever saw them. My visit was brief because the guards ordered my party out before we saw anything except the tomb of Tung-chih and his wife. The site is beautiful, covering perhaps thirty miles. The tombs are located on the slopes of mountains, and the grounds are decorated with beautiful marble bridges and many handsome buildings.

The worship of ancestors remains

and perhaps will always remain the chief cult of the Chinese Race. It is the fundamental principle of the government and of religion. It is rather political, however, than religious. It binds families together and binds them to the state.

Various efforts have been made by members of missionary bodies to incorporate this cult into Christianity in China. It has been likened to our annual decoration of graves and treated by some writers as nothing more than proper reverence for the dead. But it is, unquestionably, intrinsically a worship of the departed ancestor. Holes are left in the grave for his spirit to come out and visit the homes of his descendants. There offerings of fruit, bread, tea and meats are made of which the spirit is supposed to partake. The spirit knows what the descendant is doing on earth and directs and controls him from the other world. The ancestor is literally worshipped as if he were a supreme being.

It is plain that the great body of the missionaries are right in their idea that this cult must be overthrown before the principles of Christianity can become effective. But it is plain also that it will take many hundreds or thousands of years to work this revolution, and that the abolition of this cult means the destruction of the Chinese Government.

This certainly the fundamental idea on which the government rests and it is certain, also, that it cannot be reconciled with Christianity.

In connection with the Emperor's trip to the Eastern Mausolea, it is worthy of remark that Li Hung-chang, the Viceroy of Chihli, is required officially to accompany him. The great Viceroy arrived at Peking the 20th inst., By a curious Chinese custom, the arrival of a high official at Peking is made the occasion of extorting from him by the officers in charge of the gates large sums of money.

It is said that it cost the Viceroy 120,000 taels to pass the gates. This money is a forced contribution to the Throne and does not go to the officials personally. His contribution of taels 100,000 last year was used to build a stone road to the Temple of Heaven. Three hundred thousand taels were demanded of him this year but he paid only the sum stated.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

Ack by [illegible] file

The volumes mentioned herein have been delivered to Mr. Scanlan. May 6. 90

No. 1075

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 25. 1890.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 6 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Two volumes of "Tariff Returns" forwarded to the Department.

No. 1075

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 25. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have this day sent to you, under separate cover, two volumes of "Tariff Returns, being a set of tables, showing the bearing of the Chinese Customs Tariff of 1858 on the Trade of 1885." I must leave to the staticians of the Treasury the duty of analizing these returns. I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

DIPLOMAT Mr Cridler
MAY 6 1890

No. 1076.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 28. 1890.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack by subject & file.
aaa
MAY 6 1890

V 7 May

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.
The Russo-Chinese Telegraphic Convention

Synopsis
Effort made by Li Hung-Chang to have it ratified. Antagonistic action of the Minister described.

No. 1076.

Legation of the United States,
Peking March 28-1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to
76 enclose, herewith, a copy
of a despatch sent by
me to the Foreign Office
on the 20th day of this month
touching the proposed rati-
fication of the recently
prepared Telegraphic
Convention. In this
connexion, I refer to my
despatches, Nos. 971 of
October 9, 1889, 979 of
October 24 1889, 986 of
October 29. 1889, and 1017 of
December 29. 1889.
It will be seen by the

last despatch that it was supposed in China that the proposed Convention had been abandoned. But, it appears that reports to that effect were unfounded, and were, perhaps, circulated in order to deceive the opponents of the measure. At all events, it seems to have been understood, that prior to the departure of the Russian Minister for Europe which occurred the 23d instant, advantage was to be taken of the presence of Li Hung Chang at Peking to procure the ratification of the said Convention. I, fortunately, discovered this plan and fortunately, also, Li's arrival was delayed for several days. I informed the German and Japanese Ministers of this programme. We agreed that each one of us should send protests to the Yamên. This was done before Li's arrival.

I was particularly requested by the Marquis Tseng, who opposes the ratification of the Convention, to see the Yamên personally, and to present my views. Mr. von Brandt visited the Yamên at one o'clock the 24th instant, and I followed at two o'clock. The German Minister had a rather stormy interview. I was received somewhat coldly, but in a short time the discussion became friendly, although occasionally animated. I went over the various points of antagonism to the Convention both from a Chinese, and foreign point of view.

The Yamên did not seem to care very much for the opposition of the foreigners. Indeed it is quite impossible for the Ministers to shake off their anti-foreign prejudices. As an illustration, when he was with the Yamên the 23d instant, all that he had to say about foreign opposition was: "Let the foreigners send fewer telegrams." But the Marquis Tsêng told him that on a question affecting the trade and commerce of China, the foreign Ministers could not be answered in that way.

After an interview which lasted an hour and a half, of which, however, I consumed the most of the time, because the Ministers were rather reticent, the Ministers did me the honor to ask me to send them in writing a paper shewing the disadvantages that would accrue to China from ratifying the said Convention. Their request afforded me the desired opportunity of presenting the questions involved from a Chinese point of view, and was taken by me not only as a personal compliment, but as indicating a desire at least to consider the question thoroughly.

I have the honor to enclose,
e/7b. herewith, a copy of the said memorandum which was sent to the Yamên this day. As the points are therein concisely stated it does not seem necessary

to abstract them here.

You will recall the fact that in 1881, a correspondence took place between Yourself and one of my predecessors, Mr. Angell, on an analogous subject. At that time China proposed to grant to the Great Northern Telegraphic Company the exclusive right to lay submarine cables to China. Mr. Angell opposed the ratification of the agreement and succeeded in having the clause in question stricken out. See pages 275, 279, 292, 295, 299, of the Foreign Relations of 1881. It will be seen that I have adopted the suggestions as to monopolies stated in your despatch at page 295. Of course, the question now on tapis differs from the one then presented. In terms no prohibition of the laying of a trans-Pacific cable is contained in this Convention. But, the ratification of it, by which a monopoly is created for fourteen years, would tend to discourage the laying of such a cable, as fears would arise that it would be deprived of any share of the interior business of China. In this view I have felt it to be my duty to oppose this Convention. In addition of course, it will be remembered that every foreign merchant in China, except the Russians, antagonize this Convention. They are active intelligent and honest business men, and must be presumed to know what is best for the general trade and commerce of China. The interest of the Chinese Merchant is, necessarily identical with their own.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures

No. 1 Minister to Yamên

" 2 " "

Copy

Informal

Mr. Denby to Foreign Office,
Peking, March 20. 1890.

Your Highness,
and Your Excellencies:

On the 26th day of October 1889, I had the honor to address to Your Highness and Your Excellencies, a note in which I protested against the conclusion of any telegraphic arrangement by which my countrymen would be prevented from enjoying the same rights and privileges as the citizens or subjects of other countries. As I have not yet received from Your Highness and Your Excellencies the answer which I had the right to expect, I herewith, have the honor to draw again Your attention to the statements contained in my note of said date, and to declare that

I

I shall consider as null and void, so far as my countrymen are concerned, any agreement with other parties in which their rights are not respected.

I have &c, &c, &c,

(Signed) Charles Denby.

Mr. Denby
to the
Foreign Office,
March 28. 1890.

At our interview on the 23d instant, Your Highness and Your Excellencies did me the honor to request me to put on paper my views as to the effect of the proposed Telegraphic Convention. I have therefore the honor to send you my views as concisely expressed as possible.

1st. With few exceptions every foreign merchant in China opposes the ratification of the Convention. This class knows what is best for general trade and commerce both for themselves and the Chinese Merchants with whom they deal. It is identified with China. Its opinion is entitled to have weight.

2d The foreign trade of China is increasing day by day. Telegraphic communication is a necessity to commerce. The new convention creates a monopoly and ensures high prices.

3d If there be no competition, in the event of war China's communication with her Ministers and people abroad might be cut off.

4th A trans-Pacific cable is desirable. Running to the Hawaiian Islands where China has many subjects, and thence to the Chinese coast, it would give competition with the old companies.

5th While the Convention does not in terms prohibit the laying of a trans-Pacific cable, its tendency is to prevent one from being laid, because China binds herself for fourteen years to give all her business at fixed rates to established companies.

6th It is proper to state here that Prince Kung in 1881 admitted that the United States had the right to lay a cable to China in spite of any contract that she might make with other Nations. This right will be insisted on when the time comes to lay a cable, and it will be insisted also that no contract granting a monopoly to the injury of such cable can be maintained.

7th The new convention antagonizes the "favored Nation" clause in the Treaties because it grants special privileges to the subjects of one nation to the exclusion of others.

8th This must be true because by the convention all telegraphic business originating in China is to be done during fourteen years at fixed and unchangeable rates by certain companies only.

9th By this convention China loses the right to charge any royalty for the privilege of operating telegraphs. The income from this source might be valuable.

10th She gives up the right to make connexions with other countries. For instance, should an independant line be built through Burma or Tibet, she is powerless to make traffic arrangements with it.

11th It is in the highest degree

impolitic especially in the infancy of the telegraphic system for China to bind her hands for fourteen years.

12th This convention practically gives to one nation a monopoly.

13th It gives to the subjects of one nation cheaper rates than the subjects of other nations can enjoy.

14th It requires all messages to be sent through and not to intermediate points for re-transmission.

15th It deprives China of the control of her own telegraphic lines.

16th It renders a line to Kiachta practically useless. Why build such a line if the prices are fixed and cannot be changed? It would be throwing away the cost of the line.

17th For the loss of valuable rights, what is China to get? It is said that she is to have ten per cent on the business going south over the cable from Shanghai.

18th It is assumed that the sum will amount to $100,000 per annum. It is thought, however, by competent experts that the amount will be much less. To a great nation like China this sum is a trifle.

19th But if a trans-Pacific cable be laid, much of the business will go over such cable, and China will receive very little from this ten per cent.

20th It is said that without this convention China cannot unite her lines with lines leading to Europe.

21st. If China joins the Telegraph Union by which all international telegraphic arrangements are governed, means would be found to secure the sending of her messages at favorable rates.

22d. Shall one nation be permitted to say to another "You shall not send your messages over my lines, unless you grant me a monopoly over your own internal lines?"

23d. The experience of my country, as of all countries, has shewn that monopolies are dangerous. They create ill-will, spite, contention, and discontent.

24th. Especially in the infancy of a system, they should not be granted. In these days of rapid improvement in all the arts and sciences no man can tell what developments may ensue by which changes in any system may become necessary.

25th Speaking in the interest of China, which in this case, happily, is also the interest of my own country, it is to be greatly hoped that China will take time to consider long and seriously the very important question now before Your Highness and Your Excellencies before making an agreement from which no good and many evils will surely flow.

In conclusion it must be admitted by all men that it is proper for the Mercantile community in China to oppose the ratification of a Convention which makes the Great Government of China a party to a combination to keep up prices, prevents all advantages to trade by the extension of China inland Telegraphs, either through Burma or any other of the outlying Countries of China and deprives China of all the advantages of a trans-Pacific cable, should one be laid.

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

Mr Cridler

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 6 1890

No. 1077
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 29. 1890.

✓ 7 may.

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack with 1076, and file
aaa
MAY 6 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject.

Encloses an erroneous article in the London Times on the Chefoo Telegraphic Convention.

No. 1077.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 29. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

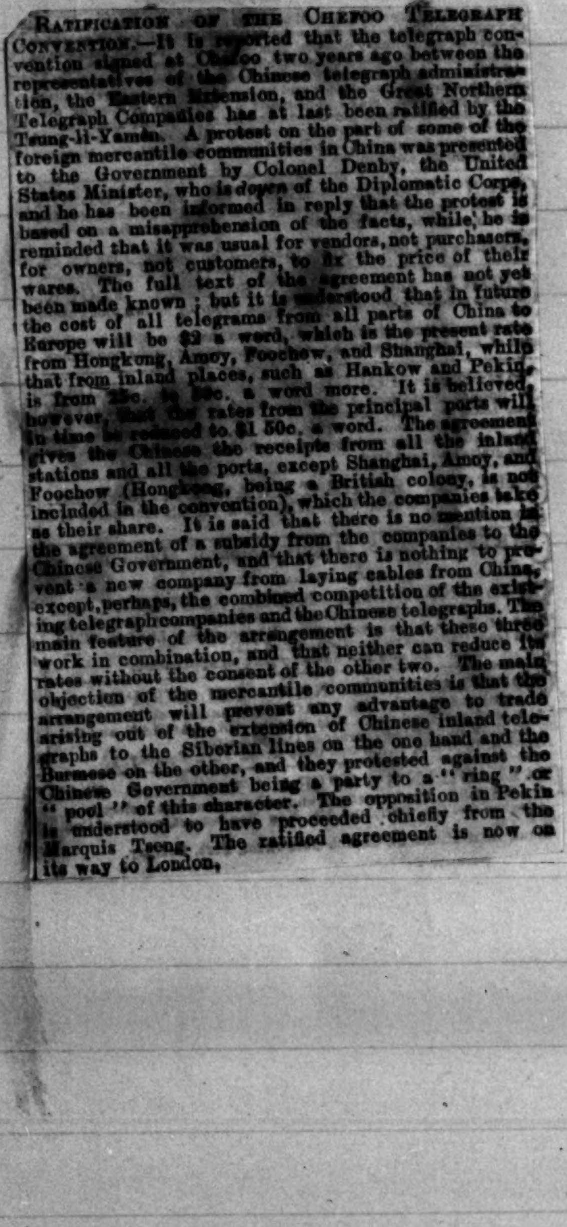
I enclose, herewith, a clipping from the "Weekly London Times" of February 7. 1890. It will be seen that the Times regrets the ratification of the Chefoo Telegraphic Convention, and professes to give the purport of the answer that was made to me by the Yamên. All this is utterly unfounded and untrue.

No such answer was made to me, and the said convention has not been ratified.

In my despatch No. 1074

of the 28th instant, you were informed of the present status of the contest. The question of ratification is still under discussion. The Times curiously omits to state the main objection urged by me, not as Doyen, but as Minister of the United States, that as affecting a trans-Pacific Cable, this convention would be held null and void by my Government.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby



Ratification of the Chefoo Telegraph Convention.—It is reported that the telegraph convention signed at Chefoo two years ago between the representatives of the Chinese telegraph administration, the Eastern Extension, and the Great Northern Telegraph Companies has at last been ratified by the Tsung-li-Yamên. A protest on the part of some of the foreign mercantile communities in China was presented to the Government by Colonel Denby, the United States Minister, who is *doyen* of the Diplomatic Corps, and he has been informed in reply that the protest is based on a misapprehension of the facts, while he is reminded that it was usual for vendors, not purchasers, for owners, not customers, to fix the price of their wares. The full text of the agreement has not yet been made known; but it is understood that in future the cost of all telegrams from all parts of China to Europe will be $2 a word, which is the present rate from Hongkong, Amoy, Foochow, and Shanghai, while that from inland places, such as Hankow and Pekin, is from 25c. to 50c. a word more. It is believed, however, that the rates from the principal ports will in time be reduced to $1 50c. a word. The agreement gives the Chinese the receipts from all the inland stations and all the ports, except Shanghai, Amoy, and Foochow (Hongkong, being a British colony, is not included in the convention), which the companies take as their share. It is said that there is no mention in the agreement of a subsidy from the companies to the Chinese Government, and that there is nothing to prevent a new company from laying cables from China, except, perhaps, the combined competition of the existing telegraph companies and the Chinese telegraphs. The main feature of the arrangement is that these three work in combination, and that neither can reduce its rates without the consent of the other two. The main objection of the mercantile communities is that the arrangement will prevent any advantage to trade arising out of the extension of Chinese inland telegraphs to the Siberian lines on the one hand and the Burmese on the other, and they protested against the Chinese Government being a party to a "ring" or "pool" of this character. The opposition in Pekin is understood to have proceeded chiefly from the Marquis Tseng. The ratified agreement is now on its way to London,

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
Mr Cridler

No. 1078.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 29.1890.

Ack. with 1076 + 1077

Mr. Denby

to the

Secretary of State.

Subject
Telegraphic Convention

Synopsis

Encloses Clipping from
N. C. News.

No. 1078.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 29. 1890

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a clipping from the North China News of the 20th instant, on the subject of the Telegraph Convention on which I lately sent you despatches Nos. 1076 of March 28, and 1077 of March 29.

It will be seen that the writer uses substantially the same arguments that I have advanced. I regret that no other copy is procurable here.

I

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

THE TELEGRAPH CONVENTION.

In the month of December ultimo the Shanghai and Hongkong evening press conveyed the intelligence that the Chefoo Telegraph Convention had been signed by the Tsungli Yamên. It seems that the information was readily believed in, and people naturally thought that the new combination would speedily commence working. Months have passed, and still the old system is in force, no connection has been made between the Chinese and Russian frontier lines, and the cable companies still enjoy the monopoly of international telegraph transmission. The fact is that the Chefoo Telegraph Convention was neither signed by the Yamên nor H.E. Li Hung-chang. The proposed Russian agreement as the *forerunner-basis* and guarantee of the Telegraph Convention was signed by their Excellencies Li Hung-chang and the Russian Minister, M. Coumany. The Russian home government, however, thought otherwise and refused to ratify, whereupon the whole movement came to a stop. It will be hard to guess what motives have ruled the St. Petersburg Cabinet, but we venture to think that the Russian statesmen saw what we have pointed out before in the following three clauses:—

1.—Monopolies and fixed division of telegraph business and traffic preclude the rights of other parties and are consequently against the International treaty.

2.—Two terminal rates, one of 2 francs for Russia and another of 5 francs for England, America and the Continent are against equity and the International treaty. Why should the same telegraphic work over the same distance and the same route within the boundaries of China be dearer for one party than for another?

3.—Russia's getting a terminal rate of 2 francs in China is not to be opposed, but the Russian Minister's tendency to fix this nice rate for his countrymen *only* should be prevented.

The Russian agreement was illogical and undiplomatic. We furthermore think that the vigorous protestations of the American Minister, Col. Denby, the Hongkong and Shanghai Chambers of Commerce and the British, American and German merchants, carried due weight not only with the Tsungli Yamên, but also with the Russian Government and the public opinion at large. Indeed, the manifestations of the unpopularity of the Telegraph Convention have been many and strong. We heartily congratulate our fellow merchants on the satisfactory result—the non-ratification of the Chefoo Telegraph Convention and its appendix the Russian agreement. China's telegraphic rights had been unfairly checked in order to suit a party policy not resting upon the broad basis of equity but upon competition spirit. Broader principles, we hope, will come to reign supreme. China's telegraphic movement cannot be regulated by the cable companies nor can her International tariff be laid down by one government's Minister, but should be the outcome of an International Conference where all parties interested had their say; in fact she should join the International Union without delay. Only in this way the justified expectations of a lower and fairer tariff between the Far East and the West can be realised. Only what is built on the foundation of truth can withstand the wave of time. If the Chefoo Convention had been ratified it would clearly have shown its deficiencies but we should have had to arm ourselves with patience for fourteen long years. A right solution of the question—that is, a fair field to all interests, may soon dawn upon us, and we may in a not far off future have the beneficial results. These can be briefly summarised as follows:—For China a dignified status, freedom of telegraphic action, and an increased revenue, and for trade and commerce the salubrious impulse of a much less burdensome tariff which, in accordance with all principles of economy, will increase the telegraphic traffic so as to offer a lucrative field not only for the shareholders of the foreign companies but also for China, on whose shores the cables are landed and to whose imperial favour they owe twenty years of success.

EQUITY.

15th March.

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU,
MAY 5 1890
Mr Cridler

No. 1079.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 29th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Acknowledges receipt of
two boxes stationery.

No 1079.

Legation of the United States
Peking, March 29th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of two boxes of stationery sent to this Legation by the Department of State.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU,
MAY 16 1890

Sep.

Legation of the United States.

Peking March 31st 1890.

Mr. Denby Jr. to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Salary Account.

Two enclosures.

Sep.

Legation of the United States.
Peking March 31st 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose my salary account for the quarter ending this day and my account for loss by exchange on the draft drawn by me against it.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Chas. Denby Jr.
Second Secretary
of Legation.

Enclosures.
As above.

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 10 1890
Coolidge

No. 1080.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 31. 1890

✓ ackd. May 15/90 Phelps

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject.

Opium importation into China

Synopsis.

Minister declines to assist delegates of Anti-Opium Society in their efforts to secure abrogation of existing Opium Conventions.

No. 1080.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 31. 1890.

To The Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that two members of the English Anti-Opium Society have appeared at Peking. They are Mr Alfred S. Dyer, an Englishman, and Mr. H. E. Robbins, an American, both residents of Bombay. Their declared purpose is by petition, and otherwise, to induce the Chinese Government to set aside all existing arrangements touching the importation of opium, and to prohibit such importation as well as the cultivation of the Poppy in China. They have solicited my aid, both official and personal, in the accomplishment of this purpose.

The question whether the American Minister here should take any part in the scheme is susceptible of argument on both sides, but my judgement is that he should not. It would extend this despatch to an inordinate length to undertake to review the whole opium question in China, but a few observations will serve to convey my own reasoning.

The position of the United States as to the opium traffic is well understood to be antagonistic thereto. See the Treaty of 1880, and the Act of Congress of February 23. 1887

(United States Statutes at large 1885-87 p. 409.)

It is claimed by the anti-Opium people that I have the right to antagonize the importation of Opium because when the Treaty of 1880 was adopted China was herself understood to be opposed to its importation. This argument is not entirely without force. We surrendered the right of our people to engage in the opium traffic, because China desired to prohibit the importation. It is claimed that we have the right to hold China to an implied contract of prohibition of the traffic as long as we ourselves refrain from engaging in it. This argument might suffice to enable us to repeal our prohibitory law, which would leave the Treaty inoperative, but it does not authorize the interference by the Minister here with the internal policy of China or with her Treaty Relations with other Powers. As friendly advisers of China, as long as she desired to prohibit the importation of opium, it was perfectly competent for the American Ministers to do what they could to assist her.

In this sense my predecessor largely discussed the opium question - See For. Rel. 1883 pp 124-181. Whether the views therein expressed are correct or not is immaterial to the present question.

When I came to China, I found an existing Treaty which did not execute itself, and I immediately pressed on the Department the necessity of a law to carry out the Treaty. The act of February 23. 1887, was the result of my urgent representations. My connexion with opium begins and ends in the duty to execute that law. The position of China has vastly changed since 1880. She no longer prohibits the importation of opium and she indirectly encourages the growth of the Poppy. On the 11th day of September 1886, China made an agreement with Great Britain by which Hong Kong became an outlying opium station for China, and on the payment of Taels 110 per picul, opium could be imported into any Chinese Port. (See my despatch No. 291 of January 18. 1887.) The first day of Decr. 1887, she made a similar agreement with Portugal by which Macao became an opium station for China (See my despatch No. 651 of June 25. 1888.) The traffic in Opium is, therefore, as completely legal today as any other traffic.

It does not seem to me that a foreign minister here can, with propriety, demand of China to nullify rules which concern only her own people, and do not, except by excessive indiscretion, concern his fellow-nationals. Especially such interference should not be exercised when it might result in nullifying conventions entered into by China with other friendly powers. At all events, a minister should not take such action without prior consultation with his own government.

For these reasons, I have distinctly declined to be the medium of the presentation of any petition to the Yamên on this subject. It is likely that I will have another interview with the gentlemen named, but it is not likely that I will change the views herein expressed.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

TMENT OF STATE
MAY 5 1890
ECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 6 1890
Mr Cridler
Tam 6 May

No. 1081.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, March 31. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of States.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack with complimentary appreciation -
MAY 5 1890 AAA

Subject.

Chang Jin Huan has been appointed a Minister of the Tsung-li Yamên

No. 1081.

Legation of the United States,
Peking March 31. 1890.

To The Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that Chang Yin Huan, lately Chinese Minister to the United States, has been appointed a Minister of the Tsung-li Yamen. You will recall that after having made the late proposed Treaty with the United States, he returned to Canton, his place of residence. There he was nearly mobbed by the populace on account of having negotiated that Treaty.

He came to Peking a few days ago with the Viceroy

Li, and probably secured his new position by the influence of the Viceroy. While I dread that his influence will be thrown in favor of the proposed Telegraphic Convention with Russia on account of his relations with Li, still on all other accounts, his appointment must be regarded as favorable to foreign influence. He called on me a few days ago, and we had an exceedingly pleasant interview. He speaks English well enough to make himself generally understood. He admires America and Americans and spoke in the highest terms of the treatment that he received in the United States, and of the pleasures of Washington society. Like most educated Cantonese, he is shrewd, sharp, and bright. He will now call on me again officially. I will return his call at the Foreign Office, and I do not doubt that our relations will be very friendly and agreeable.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1890
RECEIVED.

Wm Cridler

No. 1082.
Legation of the United States,
Peking April 1. 1890.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 20 1890

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File. aaa
MAY 19 1890

Mr. Denby

to the

Secretary of State.

Subject.

China will immediately build a Rail Road to Kirin, one from Hankow to Peking, and the projected line from Tientsin to Tungchow.

✓

No. 1082

Legation of the United States,
Peking April 1. 1890.

To The Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch No. 1070, March 19. last, wherein I undertake to shew the necessity of China's building a Rail Road line to Kirin, I have now the honor to inform you that the Yamên has agreed to recommend to the Emperor the immediate construction of this road. The Rail Road from Tientsin to Tungchow will also be built shortly. And the Road from Hankow to Peking will be proceeded with. These are the results of the visit of Li Hung Chang to Peking. The information comes to me straight and may be relied on as correct. But, until work is actually commenced the world will still doubt whether these schemes will be executed. I have frequently described these proposed lines and as I want to get this despatch off today, I do not enter into a minute description thereof. I will probably wire you should the Emperor by decree finally and definitively sanction the building of these roads, in order that our countrymen may be posted should they desire to take any part in these great works.) I notice that the European and American papers are full of accounts of the building by Russia of a line to Vladivostock. The information I send you is China's answer to Russia.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1890
RECEIVED.

Mr Cridler
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 20 1890

21 May

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack by subject & file
AAA
MAY 19 1890

No. 1083 ~~1078~~.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 2. 1890.

Mr Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Encloses a copy of additional memorandum sent to the Yamên on the Telegraphic Convention.

No. 1083.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 2. 1890.

To The Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch No. 1076 of March 28th last, in which I enclosed a copy of my memorandum shewing the disadvantages to China, of the proposed Telegraphic Convention, I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a copy of another communication sent to the Yamên by me the 31st ultimo, wherein I state some additional and rather technical objections to the said Convention.

The matter at the present

writing is still under discussion. The Japanese Minister and the Chargé d'Affaires of Spain have added their influence to that of the German Minister and my own antagonistic to the said Convention. The French Minister does not wish to antagonize Russia, and the British Minister simply obeys the order of his Government in favoring the proposed scheme.

As a military question England assists the Eastern Extension though every English merchant in China opposes the Convention. It is still impossible to say what the result will be, but I fear that the Vice Roy Li Hung Chang will carry his point.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosure
Ministers memorandum
to the Foreign Office

Copy.

March 31. 1890.

Your Highness,
& Your Excellencies:

I have the honor to submit to you some further observations showing the disadvantages to China of the proposed Telegraphic Convention.

Memorandum.

1st

By virtue of the fourth article of the Chefoo Telegraphic Convention, the traffic from the only places of importance, as far as traffic with foreign Countries is involved, is given to the two cable companies, they paying ten percent. from the Shanghai Amoy and Foochow traffic. The traffic from Hongkong when China has a telegraph station is as well open to China as the Great Northern, and the Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants have already protested against the monopoly of the Foreign Companies.

2d

If China built the Kiachta line and did not ratify the proposed convention, but competed freely, she would gather a great revenue, because this line is cheaper to build than sea cables, costs less to maintain, and is less liable to interruptions The main business would go over the land line.

3d

The foreign companies transmit from Shanghai, Amoy and Foochow about 760,000 words and including Hong Kong more than 1,200,000 words. If the Kiachta line

come

were built and only half this number were transmitted China would have several times the income now offered to her.

4th

While China receives no benefit she greatly benefits two other Powers, maintaining for them important maritime links in their communications to the East.

5th

The socalled inland traffic which is left to China only represents about 25,000 words per annum, and compared with the traffic that China surrenders is insignificant.

6th

The ten percent offered for the important business along from Shanghai, which naturally belongs to China, means for the Companies only five telegrams sent, and five received each day. Shanghai alone has 280 foreign firms.

7th /

Sameness of tarif is objectionable. China can do better and cheaper work if she controls prices.

8th

China can easily do all the business without the two companies.

uplicate.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU

NOV 7 1890

China
File

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 4 1890
RECEIVED.

Mr Denby to Mr. Blaine.

No. 1084 April 2. 1890

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your No. 495, of the 31st Jany.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) Charles Denby

r. Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 17 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREA
MAY 17 1890

No. 1085. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States
Peking, April 4th 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Transmitting salary
account for quarter ending
31st March 1890.

No. 1085. One enclosure

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 4th 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to
85. enclose herewith a statement of my
salary account for the quarter
ending the 31st of March 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Statement as above

?

to Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 16 1890

Separate. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 5th, 1890.

Mr. F. D. Cheshire
to the
Secretary of State

— Subject —

Transmitting account for salary for quarter ending March 31st 1890.

Separate One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 5th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my salary account for the quarter ending March 31st 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant
F. D. Cheshire.
Interpreter of Legation

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 16 1890

Separate. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 5th, 1890.

Mr. F. D. Cheshire
to the
Secretary of State

— Subject —

Transmitting account for loss by Exchange for Quarter ending March 31st, 1890.

Separate. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 5th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington. D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for loss by Exchange for the quarter ending March 31st 1890, against which I have drawn my draft on you in the usual manner.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant
F D Cheshire
Interpreter of Legation

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 16 1890

No. 1086. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 5th 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject.

Transmitting statement of Rent Account for quarter ending March 31st 1890.

No. 1086 One enclosure

Legation of the United States
Peking, April 5th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir: —

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the Rent Account of this Legation for the quarter ending March 31st 1890.

86

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your obedient Servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Statement as above.

[illegible] 5

o Kuckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 16 1890

No 1087. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 7th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject
Transmitting account for
loss by Exchange for Quarter
ending March 31st 1890.

No 1087 One enclosure

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 7th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my account for loss by Exchange for the quarter ending March 31st 1890, against which I have drawn my draft on you in the usual manner.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Statement as above.

Randolph

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1890
RECEIVED.

Mr Cridler

DIPLOMATIC BUREA
MAY 16 1890

No 1088. One enclosure

Legation of the United States
Peking, April 8th 1890.

Mr Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject.
Return of Passports for quarter ending March 31st 1890.

No 1088. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 8th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State.
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to
hand you enclosed my return
88 of Passports for the quarter
ending March 31st, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Return as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 16 1890
Mr Cridler

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y no file

No. 1089.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 8. 1890.

Mr. Denby

to the

Secretary of State –

Subject.

Acknowledges Despatches.

No. 1089.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 8. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as below:

497	Febry.	14.	1890.
498	"	20.	"
499	"	"	"
500	"	21.	"
501	"	26.	"
502	March	4.	"
503	"	"	"

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

MAY 29 1890
CEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 31 1890

Mr Cridler

No 1090.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 9th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby ✓ [illegible] to
Hon. J. H. Ketcham
31 May

to the

Secretary of State

Subject.

Population of Peking &c.

Synopsis

Gives estimated population, and date of last Chinese census.

No 1090

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 9th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine

Secretary of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No 500, of date the 21st of February last, wherein you request, at the instance of the Honorable Mr. Ketcham, M.C., a translation of the most recent printed official statements, if any, of the population of Peking; also the date of the last Chinese census,— to be forwarded to "The Diplomatic Bureau" of the Department.

In reply, I have the honor to state that, so far as I can learn, there are no recent printed official statements such as you refer to. I may say, however, that the population of Peking is not accurately known, but according to a Chinese estimate which is probably slightly in excess, it is 1.300.000, of whom 900.000 reside in the Tartar and 400.000 in the Chinese city. These two cities are practically one, although divided into two portions by a wall through which are three gates.

The most extravagant estimates have been made at various times, and it is generally thought that the "so called" census returns of the Chinese officials are untrustworthy. The density of the population in some parts of Peking is very great while in others it is very small. Many statements regarding the population of this vast Empire require to be treated with the greatest caution.

The last census was taken in 1882. In this connection I beg to refer you to my despatches numbered 695, of September 4th, 1888, and 738 of October 20th, 1888.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Mr. Cridler

MENT

MAY 29 1890

CEIVED

DIPLOMA U.

JUN 4 1890

Ack. with approval
June 3, 1890. J.B.M.

No. 1091

Legation of the ~~United~~ States,
Peking, April 9. 1890

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack as directed by Mr. Moore. A.A.A.
JUN 4 1890

-6 June

Mr. Denby

to the

Secretary of State

Subject

The Kwai-ping claims.

Synopsis

Detail given of the recent actions of this legation relating thereto.

No. 1091.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 9. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In further reply to your despatch No. 499 of Febry. 20. 1890, relating to the Fulton claim for damages, I have the honor to make the following statement.

In addition to my communication of February 11. 1889 to the Yamen, I sent to it on the 27th day of June 1889 another communication of which I enclose a copy. It will be seen that I urge with all possible persistence that the claim be paid. In its conclusion, I demand definitely to know whether the Yamên approves of the conduct of Chang Chi tung. To this communication I have received no reply. But in August of 1889 Chang Chi tung was removed from his Vice-Royalty, partly, as I believe, on account of his obstructive policy touching foreigners. Li Han Chang was appointed Viceroy of the two Kwangs to succeed Chang Chi tung. This gentleman is the brother of Li Hung Chang and was understood to be fairly well disposed towards foreigners.

I determined, therefore, to instruct Mr. Seymour to make another effort to secure a settlement of this claim at Canton before bringing it again to the attention of the Yamên. I did not think it was politic to pass the new Viceroy by and without notice to him to press the matter on the Imperial Government. You are well aware that claims of this nature are never paid at Peking but always in the Provinces. You are aware also that the high Provincial authorities resent as derogatory to their dignity appeals to the Imperial Government being made without the party having first communicated with them. Therefore, on the appointment of Li Han Chang I sent to Mr. Seymour instructions to press as soon as possible on the new Viceroy the settlement of the claim.

I enclose, herewith, a copy

of my communication of September 7. 1889 to Mr. Seymour

This despatch was acknowledged September 24. 1889.

Before Chang Chi-tung left Mr. Seymour tried in vain to get him to take action on the Fulton claim.

Li Hang Chang did not arrive at Canton until the last of November 1889. December was taken up in formalities. I learn that the Viceroy has since been indisposed. At all events I am without any report from Mr. Seymour as to any action taken by the new Viceroy. I have, this day written to Mr. Seymour to report to me definitely the action of the Viceroy. As soon as I receive this report, I will immediately communicate with the Yamên in writing and personally and again demand positive orders that the claim be paid.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosures
No. 1 Minister to Yamên
" 2 " " Consul Seymour.

Copy

Mr. Denby to the
Foreign Office, Peking.
June 27. ~~1890~~ 1889

Your Highness,
and Your Excellencies:

On the 11th of Feby. 1889, I had the honor to address Y. H. and Y. Exs, a communication wherein I again requested that H. E., the Viceroy at Canton should be directed to settle without delay the Kwei Ping Claims, in favor of the Fultons, for losses sustained by them at the hands of a mob. On the 18th idem I had the honor to receive a reply from the Yamên to effect that a communication had been addressed to the Viceroy of Canton to consider a satisfactory mode of action to the end that the case may be brought to a speedy termination. I have now learned from Canton that H.E. the Viceroy has done nothing whatever to execute the instructions of your Highness and your Excellencies to bring about a satisfactory adjustment of the case. The matter has been pending for a long time. The Viceroy has made promises to bring the case to a satisfactory close, but up to the present it remains unsettled. I regard it my duty to again call your Highness and your Excellencies' attention to this matter and to ask that the Viceroy again be pressed to take action in the premises: the case is beyond doubt a proper and just one and it should be speedily settled. But if it is the settled policy of the Viceroy not to pay damages of this character, which should be paid, and if that policy is approved by Your Highness and Your Excellencies, it is desirable that it be known, so that I may communicate with my Government to take such action as may be necessary.

With assurances &c &c

(Signed) Charles Denby.

Copy.

Mr. Denby to Consul Seymour.

No. 138

Peking. Septr. 7. 1889.

Sir:

As you are doubtless aware there will be a change in the office of Viceroy at Canton shortly, the present incumbent being succeeded by the Brother of the Viceroy of Chili, Li Hung Chang. This gentleman is believed to be more friendly disposed towards foreigners than Chang Chi Tung, and no doubt his administration of international affairs will be conducted in a manner more satisfactory than his predecessor. My purpose in addressing you is to suggest that it would be advisable for you to present the Kwei Ping claims before the new Viceroy after he has been properly installed in his office. I have presented these claims to the Foreign office here several times and while the Prince and Ministers have communicated with the Viceroy Chang Chi Tung from time to time with a view of having them speedily brought to a satisfactory termination, still nothing has been accomplished; and it would seem that it is owing to the independent spirit of the Viceroy who evidently cares little or nothing for the instructions issued from the Foreign Office here. In the last communication I received from the Tsungli Yamên the Prince and Ministers stated that they had addressed the Viceroy at Canton to consider a satisfactory mode of action to the end that the case may be brought to a speedy termination and that they would address me on receipt of a report from the Viceroy. No report has been received here from that officer that I am aware of. A short time ago I addressed another communication to the Tsungli Yamên in re these claims, but I am still without any satisfactory advices. I am therefore of the opinion that it would be well to bring these claims before the notice of the new Viceroy as in any event they will have to be paid by the order of the Canton High Authorities.

(signed) Charles Denby

Ack. by No & file

MENT
MAY 29 1890
CEIVED.

[illegible]

No. 1092.
Legation of the United States
Peking, April 9. 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.
The Imperial Maritime Customs.

Synopsis
Some observations on its organization, works, and labors.

No. 1092.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 9. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The prominence which is day by day being acquired by the Imperial Maritime Customs has induced me to offer some observations upon this branch of the Public service in China. In its commencement this institution was a distinctly Foreign conception. In 1855 during the progress of the great Taiping rebellion, the native city of Shanghai was captured by the rebels.

Under the administration of the native officials, the Customs had been a disgrace to the Government, by the venality, and corruption of its employees.

The fall of the city overthrew the old system, and left no official to collect imposts. There was an interregnum, during which the Foreign Consuls collected duties from their fellow nationals.

But, this system was unsatisfactory, and resulted in many irregularities.

Finally the Consuls, and Foreign Ministers decided to constitute a joint commission for the collection of Customs dues. T. F. Wade British Vice Consul, Lewis Carr, Secretary of the United States Commissioner, Mr. R. M. McLane, and Arthur Smith of the French Consular service, were appointed Commissioners of Customs.

The Chinese Government approved the plan, because it relieved it from all responsibitility, and insured an honest collection of a great revenue. From this small beginning was evolved the splendid system, which under the control of Sir Robert Hart has wrought the most beneficial effects in China. The Customs now has representatives in all the Treaty ports, and in Corea. Its personnel is composed of young men from Europe & America; who have received the best educations. It collects and honestly pays over more than Taels 23.000,000 annually. It has studded the dangerous coast of China with light houses. It has provided her navigable rivers with bouys, and light ships. It compiles annually valuable statistics of trade. It furnishes meteorological, and health reports, and other information of general interest. It specially investigates and reports on trade, particularly on opium, silk, and tea.

It has latterly become the most important instrumentality in China for carrying on Diplomatic, Political, and Commercial relations with foreign countries. A slight review of some of its Commercial and Diplomatic services will illustrate this statement. The Chefoo Convention of 1876 has, under the manipulation of Sir Robert Hart, resulted in the Hong Kong and Macao agreements of 1886-87, whereby the Imperial Government has grasped the immense revenue derived from imposts on opium. Opium now pays Taels 110 per picul, and this goes to the Central Government, and not to the Provincial authorities as heretofore. It was the Customs chiefly which settled the matters in dispute between Russia and China by which settlement Russia gave back to China the most of the vast territory that it had annexed. The Customs arranged the peace between China and France in 1884-5. The Customs has affected a lodgment in Corea, and now collects duties there as it does in China, and the Customs will some day in all likelihood, settle the troublesome Corean question, according to the interest of China. An agent of the Customs has settled the Sikkim affair and the Tibetan question, with the agents of British India. It is to the Customs that China will ultimately look to settle questions of internal reform which agitate the Empire.

It is not too much to say that a national army and navy, a mint, a system of Banking, will some day be evolved by the Customs. At all Expositions and Conferences abroad, as at the late Maritime Conference at Washington, China is represented by a member of the Customs. The contest in China will be henceforth between the Governors and Viceroys and the Customs. She will reproduce our own history, the history of Japan, the feudal history of Europe, and she will wage this contest for centralization of Government by the quiet, insiduous, almost invisible influence of her devoted agent, the Customs.

Humanity and China will gain by the change of Power from ignorant and overbearing Mandarins in the Provinces to a Central authority which will acknowledge and execute Treaty stipulations.

Today, in China, each Viceroy has his army, and those whose provinces are on the Sea, and on great rivers, have their ships, and in some cases naval schools. The Viceroy at Nanking is about to establish a naval school there. A different treatment of foreigners prevails in nearly every province. In financial matters the confusion is unbounded. The time will undoubtidly come when the Customs will grasp the collection of imposts from native ships, as it now controls that from foreign ships. All the tarif dues will then be under its control. The administration of the Customs is absolutely autocratic. Sir Robert Hart, the Inspector

General is supreme. He has no Chinese associate. He employs whom he pleases, and discharges whom he pleases. There is no appeal from his orders. He tolerates no interference from any quarter. It is said, but with what truth I do not positively know, that the Inspector General receives a million and a half Taels per annum to pay expenses, and is not required to render any account whatever. All nations are treated equally by the Customs. Appointments are distributed among all nationalities but, of course, England has the "Lion's share". Sir Robert Hart has received the highest honors from the Chinese Government. His ancestors have been ennobled for three generations. He is the most laborious man I ever knew. He is justly considered by all who know him as being one of the great men of his time

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

apers ordered from July 1. 1890

Ackd July 5 1890 AAAdee

MENT
MAY 29 1890
CEIVED.

DIPLOMA
MAY 31 1890

No. 1093.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 9. 1890.

N.Y. Tribune
Washington Post

Mr. Denby

to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Requests renewal of Newspapers to this Legation.

No. 1093.

Legation of the United States
Peking, April 9. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request the Department to have forwarded to this Legation one New York Daily and one Washington Daily journal for the ensuing year. Those which we have been receiving have ceased to come for the last several months.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

BUREAU OF STATISTICS.
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

TMENT
MAY 29 1890
CEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUN 2 1890

Mr. Cridler

No. 1094.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 15. 1890.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Referred to Bureau of Statistics
Ack. as Mr. Scanlan may advise
JUN 2 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

The Port of Ch'ung K'ing opened to foreign trade.

(Copied for publication)

No. 1094.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 15. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that a Convention has been made by H. B. M's. Minister with the Chinese Government whereby in consideration of England's relinquishing the right given her in the Chefoo Convention to navigate the Upper Yangtze by steam, China agrees to open Ch'ung K'ing to foreign trade. China agrees, also, that whenever Chinese boats, propelled by steam go up to Ch'ung K'ing the subjects of Great Britain may engage in such navigation. The addition of Chung King to the list of open Ports makes twenty three. The agreement above referred to will be sent to the Home Government for ratification before it will take effect. [In this connexion, I refer to my despatch No. 1071 of March 30. 1890, wherein the proposed agreement and the effects thereof were discussed.

Print

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Mr. Kieckhoefer

MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 31 1890

1095.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 16. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject.
Encloses Contingent Expence
Account for quarter
ending March 31. 1890.

No. 1095.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 16. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a report of the Contingent Expenses of this Legation for quarter ending — March 31. 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
JUN 2 1890
Wm Cutler

No. 1096
Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 17. 1890. ✓

Done 3 June

3 June

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Give to Press.
So acknowledge - AAA
JUN 2 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The Nestorian Tablet
Si-ngan fu.

Synopsis.

Encloses copies of correspondence touching the preservation of the same.

No. 1096

Legation of the United States,
Peking April 17. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a copy of a communication which was lately sent to the Foreign Office by the Dean of the Diplomatic Body, requesting the Chinese Government to take steps to preserve the Nestorian Tablet at Si-ngan fu, together with a copy of the answer thereto. The yamên accedes to the request of the Diplomatic Body. An account of this Tablet will be found in the "Middle Kingdom", vol. 2, at page 275 and following. It is claimed by the religious antiquarian that the Christian Gospel was preached in China shortly after the Crucifixion. It must be said, however, that the earliest recorded attempt to introduce Christianity into China is the arrival of the members of the Nestorian Church which occurred A. D. 505. Silas was the Patriarch of the Nestorians from A. D. 505 to 520. Several ancient writers speak of him as Bishop of Sina. The Tablet alluded to in the enclosures is the only record remaining of the labors of the Nestorians.

It was discovered at Si-ngan fu in the Province of Shensi in 1625.
The inscription on it has been frequently translated and a full translation of it will be found at page 277 Vol 2d "Middle Kingdom".

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosures
No. 1 Mr. von Brandt to Yamên
2 Yamên to Mr. von Brandt.

March 17. 1890.

To the Prince,
and Ministers,
Your Highness:

Near Si-ngan-fu in the Province of Shensi, a great many monuments of very ancient dates exist. Many of them have been destroyed by the inclemency of the temperature - some have been preserved by accident or because special care has been taken of them. Amongst these latter is a monument, an inscription on a huge tablet, referring to the first visit of Western Christians to China, dating from the 2d year of Kien-chung of the Tang Dynasty (781). The monument which had been built over was accidentally discovered in 1625 (9th year Tien Ming of the present dynasty and has the greatest interest among Chinese and foreign students of ancient times. For many years the monument was supported and protected by a brick wall & roof according to information by some travellers who had occasio to visit it lately, it is now, as the accompanying photograph shews, entirely exposed to the weather and thereby likely to be destroyed very soon. In order to avoid the loss which would result to science from the destruction of so important a monument, a number of learned persons of all nations residing at Shanghai and being in close connexion with most of the scientific societies of Europe and America, have addressed themselves to my colleagues and myself and asked us to represent the state of things to the Tsungli-Yamên and request the Imperial Chinese Government to extend their protection to this very important and interesting relic from ancient times. My Colleagues and myself knowing very well the great interest every well educated Chinese takes in such questions and the great care with which ancient monuments are preserved every where in the Empire have thought that by placing before Your Highness and Your Excellencies the request of the learned society at Shanghai we would give the Chinese Government a welcome opportunity to prove once more that love for science and antiquity which has rendered China so justly celebrated every where. My Colleagues and myself feel ourselves therefore justified in requesting the Imperial Government to extend its care to the monument in question and to forward to the Provincial authorities of Shensi instruction for its preservation against the influences of the weather. Y. H. and Y. E. may rest assured that China will thus gain the gratitude not only of the Petitioners at Shanghai, but of every learned man in the world.

I avail myself &c

(Signed) Brandt

Peaking, March 23. 1890.

H. E.
Mr. von Brandt
German Minister.

Some days ago we had the honor to receive from Y. E. a letter to the following effect. "In the neighborhood of Si-ngan-fu, in the Province of Shensi, monuments of great age exist in large numbers; amongst them a tablet dating from the 2d year of the period Chien-chung of the time of the Emperor Ti tsung of the Tang Dynasty, which has reference to the first visit of Western Christians to China. This monument, which had been built over afterwards, was accidentally discovered in the 10th year of Tien ming of the present

Dynasty; for many years it had been supported and protected by a brickwall and roof, but according to information from travellers who had lately occasion to visit the locality, the monument is now entirely exposed to the weather and surely likely to be destroyed before long. The foreign Representatives residing at Peking have then been requested to propose measures for the protection and preservation of this relic from ancient times and Y. E. knowing the great interest which every well educated Chinese takes in such questions and the great care with which every where in the Empire the monuments of the past are preserved, believe that a transmission of the request formulated by the scientific society would

meet

ment with a favorable reception on the part of the Chinese government.

Y. E. further requested us in your letter to issue instructions to the provincial authorities of Shensi in order that they might take steps for the preservation of the monument. Our yamên has the honor to reply to this communication that we have already written to the provincial authorities of Shensi in order that the local authorities may take measures for the protection of the monument against influences. In giving this reply to Y. E., we avail ourselves &c &c

Cards of the Ministers
of the Yamên.

file

MENT STATE
MAY 29 1890
CEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 31 1890

No. 1097.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 19. 1890.

Mr. Denby

to the

Secretary of State.

Subject.

Acknowledges Telegram authorizing visit to Canton.

No. 1097.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 19. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, at 5 P. M. of yesterday, of your telegram as follows: "1051 received. Visit Canton authorized"

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

BUREAU OF STATISTICS.
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
W. Cridler
JUN 2 1890

No. 1098.

Legation of the United States,
Peking April 22. 1890.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Referred to Bureau of Statistics
Ack. as Mr. Scanlan may advise
JUN 2 1890
aa

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Report on the Foreign Trade of China for 1889.

(Copied for publication)

No. 1098.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 22. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have sent to you, under separate cover, two copies of the "Returns of Trade and Trade Reports" for the year 1889, issued by the Statistical Department of the Imperial Maritime Customs.

I offer the following

Summary of this valuable report with some observations on portions thereof.

Balance of Trade.

The Statistical Secretary quotes the figures which represent the whole of China's trade with foreign countries, to wit:

1888.

Net Imports	Taels	124,782,893
Exports	"	92,401,067
Excess of Imports	"	32,381,826

1889.

Net Imports	Taels	110,884,355
Exports	"	96,947,832
Excess of Imports	"	13,937,523

I do not think that much importance is to be attached to the fact that the Imports exceeded the Exports, in 1889, by nearly Taels 14,000,000. Modern political economy does not seem to regard this condition as unfavorable, but rather the reverse. See an article in the "Encyclopedia of Political Science," Vol 1. p. 195. The statistical Secretary offers the following observations on this subject: "But these statistics of values, if unexplained prove what is contrary to fact, namely, that China's foreign Imports invariably outvalue her Exports: whereas the Exports not only pay for the Imports but suffice also to reimburse China's foreign creditors the principal and interest due on account of loans and to yield, besides, a surplus which enters China as silver bullion."

It is important to understand the system on which values are made. Imports are ordinarily gross values and Exports are net values.

The Secretary makes the necessary corrections in values and deduces the following table as the result.

	1888 Taels	Taels 1889
Net Imports	108,240,496	96,028,166
(Value at time of landing)		
Exports	106,292,991	111,092,703
(value at time of shipment)		

In 1888, therefore, the Imports exceeded the Exports by nearly Taels 2,000,000, while in 1889 the Exports exceeded the Imports by over Taels 15,000,000. Of Silver, more than Taels 6,000,000 were imported and of gold Taels 1,600,000 were exported. It is perhaps worthy of mention that gold is exclusively merchandise in China. China imported in 1889 about Taels 14,000,000 less than in 1888. The Secretary accounts for this decline by floods and by the falling off in opium and cotton goods.

He mentions, also, a decline in the Import of grain into the Canton provinces.

Speaking of Kerosene he says it is "an unqualified Import of annually increasing quantity and benefit". He thinks that the time is not distant when "Chinese coal will, out of its matchless store, meet all and more than all the home demands." He thinks that if China loses her tea trade she will find in silk, in raw cotton, in wool, in tobacco, other products ready to fill the gap thus made in the ranks of her industrial constituents."

Total Value of Foreign Trade

The total value of the foreign trade was H.K. Taels 207,832,187 for 1889, against 217,183,960 for 1888. These figures are exclusive of goods carried coast-wise and of goods carried in Chinese ships which are not within the control of the Imperial Maritime Customs.

Customs Revenue

The Customs Revenue for 1889 was Hk. Taels 21,823,762, as against 23,167,892 in 1888.

Exports

The total value of Exports for consumption in foreign countries in 1889 was Hk. Taels 111,092,703 as against " 106,292,991 in 1888. Tea and Silk tower above all other articles. Tea fell behind and silk went ahead in 1889.

Tea.

1,548,880 piculs of black and green tea left China in 1889 against 1,751,587 piculs in 1888.

Brick and tablet 318,061 piculs in 1889 against 412,642 piculs in 1888.

Values in 1889 Hk. Taels 28,200,000, in 1888 Taels 30,200,000.

Silk.

Of white raw silk the Export in 1889 was 65,517 piculs, against 54,704 piculs in 1888. Of wild raw silk in 1889 the Export was 17,827 piculs, against 13,129 piculs in 1888. Total value of all exported silk was Taels 36,400,000 in 1889 against 32,200,000 in 1888.

Straw Braid

Of straw braid there was exported in 1889 piculs 88,403,80, valued at Taels 2,033,775 as against 79,938,89 piculs, in 1888, valued at Taels 1,989,842. Clothing, boots and shoes (Chinese) to the value of Taels 1,709,591 were exported. Raw cotton was exported to the value

of Taels 5,044,806.
Of paper 191,140,16 piculs were exported. Of brown sugar 776.753,59 piculs were exported: of white sugar 196,583,66 piculs; of sugar candy 16,681,33 piculs.

Imports.

The total value of the imports of foreign goods was Taels 110,884,355. In 1888 the value was Taels 124,782,893. This is a falling off of 11 per cent. Opium fell off 6,360 piculs or nearly 8 per cent. This result is due to the increased use of native opium.

Cotton Goods.

Cotton Shirtings decreased by 530,000 pieces, or 6 per cent; T-cloths by 760,000 pieces or 29 per cent; drills by 197,000 or 18 per cent; jeans by 9,000 pieces or 7 per cent; Sheetings by 1,314,000 pieces or 50 per cent; chintzes and prints by 215,000 pieces, or 39 per cent; twills by 116,000 pieces or 63 per cent; cotton lastings by 672,000 pieces or 73 per cent; and cotton yarn by 4,911 piculs, or nearly 1 per cent, a backward movement in a trade which had grown from 108,000 piculs in 1878 to 683,000 piculs in 1888.

Woolen Goods.

These goods are not much used in China. Camlets improved 30 per cent; lastings retrograded 31 per cent; Spanish stripes 29 per cent; Broad Medium Habit and Russian Cloth 48 per cent. Long Ells just held their own.

Metals.

Iron receded from piculs 1,265,000 in 1888 to 1,116,000 piculs in 1889, a fall of 12 per cent; tin from 77,000 piculs to 64,000 piculs, 17 per cent; steel from 50.600 piculs to 39.300 piculs, 22 per cent; and spelter from 33.600 piculs to 24.700 piculs, 26 per cent. Lead advanced from 230,000 piculs to 256,000, a rise of 11 per cent, and unmanufactured copper from 15,000 piculs to 36,000 piculs, nearly 150 per cent.

Miscellaneous.

The statistical secretary especially mentions coal, raw cotton, Kerosene oil, matches and rice.

Kerosene rose from 16,613,000 gallons in 1888, to 20,655,413 gallons in 1889. The failure of the ground-nut crop in Hainan accounts particularly for this rise of 25 per cent.

Matches valued at Taels 1,123,022 came mostly from Japan.

Coal, 370,000 tons, came from Japan. Raw cotton, 113,500 peculs, went chiefly to the Kwang tung province. Foreign rice came entirely

through

to 1,116,000 piculs in 1889, a fall of 12 per cent; tin from 77,000 piculs to 64,000 piculs, 17 per cent; steel from 50.600 piculs to 39.300 piculs, 22 per cent; and spelter from 33,600 piculs to 24,700 piculs, 26 per cent. Lead advanced from 230,000 piculs to 256,000, a rise of 11 per cent, and unmanufactured copper from 15,000 piculs to 36,000 piculs, nearly 150 per cent.

Miscellaneous.

The statistical secretary especially mentions coal, raw cotton, Kerosene oil, matches and rice. Kerosene rose from 16,613,000 gallons in 1888, to 20,655,413 gallons in 1889. The failure of the ground-nut crop in Hainan accounts particularly for this rise of 25 per cent. Matches valued at Taels 1,123,022 came mostly from Japan. Coal, 370,000 tons, came from Japan. Raw cotton, 113,500 peculs, went chiefly to the Kwang tung province. Foreign rice came entirely through the Kowloon Customs to take the place of rice destroyed by the floods. Of the Kerosene imported 5,655,471 gallons were Russian - the balance 14,999,942 gallons American.

Total Trade with Principal Countries

	1888	1889
Hongkong	103,392,264	98.557,725
Great Britain	47.093,616	36,824,264
European Continent (Russia excepted)	15.898,535	19,739,695
Japan	9.336,970	13,070,863
India	7,664.722	8,996,544
Russia:		
Odessa by sea	2.218.841	3,414.793
Siberia	4.699.421	3.961.610
United States	12,108.275	10.889.785

Jw

In 1889 the United States imported in values from China Taels 3,805,664, and exported to China in value Taels 7,084,121.

Exchange

Silver rallied a little in 1889. The average value of the Haikwan Tael in 1889 was, in English money s. d. 4. 8¾, as against s. d. 4. 8⅜ in 1888; in American gold it remained the same $1.15; in French francs 5.95 as against 5.93 in 1888; in German marks 4.85 as against 4.75 in 1888; in Mexican dollars the same 1.54.

The picul is equivalent to 100 catties, or 133 1/3 pounds avoirdupois or 60.453 Kilogrammes.

The catty is equivalent to 16 Taels or 1 1/3 pounds avoirdupois or 0.037783 Kilogrammes.

Shipping.

Of vessels entered and cleared the representation of the most important countries in 1888 and 1889 was as follows:

1888.

Flag	Number	Tons
American	234	84.455
British	15.115	14.069.260
French	176	268.644

Chinese

1888.

Flag	Number	Tons
Chinese		
Ships	6.783	5.547,170
Junks	2.271	197,359
German	2.762	1.570.035
Japanese	326	281.900
Spanish	77	38.471
	1889	
American	178	75.077
British	15.763	14.903,750
hinese		
Ships	9.427	6.020.566
Junks		
German	2,656	1,582,648
Japanese	528	441,667
Spanish	38	22.906
French	179	269,002

Some Special Statistics.

The foreign trade, the Customs

Revenue and the import of opium were less in 1889 than in 1888. They were, however, larger than in any previous year. The vessels entered and cleared were more than half under the British flag. Only 178 vessels were under the American flag. Great Britain pays 68.08 per cent of the Customs dues; China pays 19.33 per cent; Germany 6.30; and the United States 0.67 per cent. The total number of foreigners resident in China, including Japanese, is 7,905 of whom 3.276 are British, 596 Germans, 551 French, and 1,061 Americans.

Bonding Foreign Goods.

The system of bonding foreign goods has been in force more than a year. The system would be beneficial if the Government could be induced to adopt a system of private warehouses. But a monopoly is now enjoyed by the China Merchants Navigation Company, and the foreign merchant seems to care very little about bonding his goods.

Railways.

It is understood at Peking that the Government will immediately build a railroad from Kaiping to Kirin, another from Tientsin to Tengchow, another from Hankow to Lu-Kou-chias, near Peking. But the recent death of the Marquis Tsēng may affect these schemes disastrously.

Mines

It is understood that the Ku Shan Tzu mines have been taken over by a native company. These mines are promising and great hopes are entertained that they will pay handsome dividends.

New Custom Houses

Two new Custom Houses were opened during the year, one on the Tungking frontier at Lungchow, Kwangsi, and one at Mengtze, Yünnan.

Population

The estimated population of some of the chief ports is as follows:

Canton	1,600,000
Tientsin	950,000
Hankow	895,000
Foochow	635,000
Takow	235,000

Ningpo

Ningpo	250,000
Chinkiang	135,000
Amoy	96,000
Newchwang	60,000
Chefoo	21,000
Swatow	32,500

The United States has Consuls at Canton, Foochow, Amoy, Ningpo, Shanghai, Chinkiang, Hankow, and Tientsin – eight in all. There are Vice Consuls at Chefoo and Newchwang, and Consular agents at Swatow and at Tamsui, Takao and Taiwanfu in Formosa.

Opium

The opium likin paid

by British subjects was Taels 4,452,584; by Germans Taels 376,707; by Frenchmen 209,888; by Danes 36.446; by Spaniards 26,229.

Americans paid nothing. They are prohibited, by the act of February 1887, from engaging in the opium traffic.

This act creates a condition of things which subsequent events have shewn to be anomolous. Under the Treaty of 1880, the opium traffic was forbidden to Americans. It was then supposed that China was desirous of prohibiting its importation.

But China has since then legalized the trade. In April 1887 she opened the Kowloon and Lappa Custom Houses under conventions made with Great Britain and Portugal. These two Custom Houses collect foreign tariff duty and convention likin on all opium carried from Hong Kong and Macao to all Chinese ports. This, I presume, is the only example in the world in which one nation has Custom's stations in the territory of another.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
JUN 3 1890
Mr Crider

No. 1099.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 23. 1890.

3 frames

Mr. Denby

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack appropriately, approving Mr. Denby's condolatory reply to the Yamen.
JUN 2 1890

to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Encloses "notification of and Decree on the death of Marquis Tsêng, from His Majesty The Emperor," from the Tsung-li Yamên, and reply to the Yamên.

No. 1099.

Legation of the United States,
Peking April 23. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have to inform you that the Marquis Tsïng departed this life the 12th Instant at Peking. He died of Typhoid fever. The 21st Instant I received from the Tsungli-Yamên an official notice of his death, embodying a decree of the Emperor of which

a

1/1099 a translation is, herewith, enclosed.

The late Marquis was, on many accounts, the most prominent and interesting character in China. He spoke and wrote well the English language, and this acquisition served to bring him into familiar acquaintance and friendship with foreigners. His long residence abroad had familiarized him with foreign ideas and methods. Returning to China he endeavored in a somewhat restrained and modest way to introduce plans of progress in several directions. But it cannot be said, I think, that he was as active and persistent in pressing material development as the Public generally supposed. His position was difficult. He was regarded by his associates in the Foreign Office with some jealousy and distrust. His familiar association with foreigners was not approved. His influence with the Throne was not as great as that of some

others

other officials. His nature, it seemed to me, was not combative like that, for instance, of Li Hung Chang, and he retired from contests with his associates on questions of public policy on occasions when the public interest demanded positive self-assertion. This especially happened in the discussions as to the ratification of the Russo-Chinese Telegraph Convention. He simply withdrew from this contest and refused to take any part in the deliberations. He was gentle and kindly. In society, on proper occasions, he spoke in an elevated strain of the relations between the Chinese and foreigners, and he ardently desired that they might understand each other better than they do.

The Emperor fitly characterizes him as being "a man of talents, wise in counsel and well-versed in affairs, and in the discharge of the functions entrusted to him he had shown diligence and ability."

In the various offices that he filled, his labors were very great. The title of Hou-yeh, translated into English as "Marquis," is one of the few hereditary titles in China. The Marquis inherited it from his Father, Tsëng Kwo-fan, who was altogether the most distinguished man of his time. Tsëng Kwo-fan did more to put down the Taiping Rebellion than any other Chinese. He maintained the Imperial cause in the valley of the Yangtze during a prolonged struggle.

He became Governor General of the two Kiang provinces. He died at Nanking in 1872 at the age of 65 years. An account of the official positions that the late Marquis filled is given in the enclosure. He entered official life as Secretary of a Board. In the reign of Tung Chih he was appointed Director of a Minor Court. After the accession of the present Emperor he received several appointments and promotions in the government service, advancing to the position of

Vice-President of a Board. Within the last decade he was Minister Plenipotentiary to the Courts of London, Paris, and St. Petersburg. There were very important negotiations pending with all these Governments and the Marquis acquitted himself with great distinction. His extrication of China from the difficulties in which she had been involved with Russia through the incompetency of K'ung Hou by the Treaty of Livadia constituted

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a very important service. By the Treaty of 1881, citid p. 215. of Vol. 1 of the "Middle Kingdom," he saved for China a vast tract of country.

He played an active part in the settlement of the difficulties between France and China in 1883. He arranged with the Marquis of Salisbury the additional Article of the Chefoo Convention in 1886. He is said to have been associated with the Inspector General of the Imperial Maritime Customs in the settlement of the Sikkim difficulties on the borders of Tibet. Through his efforts, in a great measure, the Board of Admiralty was organized in 1887.

At the time of his death he was engaged with his uncle Tsêng Kuo-Kuan, the viceroy of Liang-Kiang, and Li Hung Chang in considering the reorganization of the entire navy of China. He was much interested in the Corean question which he regarded as demanding an early settlement.

In 1886, he was made a Vice-President of the Board of War, and in 1887, a member of the Board of admiralty. At the time of his death he was Fourth Vice President of the Hu Pu, or Board of Revenue, and a member of the Foreign Office. His name has been frequently mentioned as the probable successor of Li Hung-chang in the Vice Royalty of Chihli. He was not quite 53 years of age at the time of his death, having been born in Hunan in 1837.

The body of the Marquis will remain in Peking thirty days. Then it will be transported to the burial place of his ancestors in Hunan.

His eldest son will go into mourning for three years. He will succeed to the titles of his Father. His second son has been appointed a second class secretary of the Board of War. The foreign Ministers have shewn all possible marks of respect to the memory of the Marquis. Cards and flowers were sent by all

the

Legations. All the foreigners attended a funeral reception by the sons of the Marquis, which was held the 21st Instant, at the residence of the family. The ceremonies were very simple. We were ushered into a large room, where we remained until we were notified to proceed to an interior court. On a raised floor there was a species of altar with large candles burning thereon. On either side were ranged on shelves fruits and cakes. The two sons of the Marquis,

clad in white and carrying white sticks, stood on the right of the altar. Behind them were other male relatives. The Dean of the Diplomatic Body in a few words, expressed our regret at the death of the Marquis. The eldest son expressed his appreciation of the respect shown to his Father's memory. There was mutual bowing and the ceremony was over. I have sent to the Yamen a reply to their communication
2/1099 of which a copy is enclosed.

I

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosures.
No. 1. Foreign Office to
Mr. Denby regarding
Marquis Tsengs death
April 20. 1890.
No. 2 Reply to above.

pry. Enclosure 1. in No. 1099.

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

April 20. 1890.

Your Excellency:

The Prince and Ministers have the honor to inform Your Excellency that on the 25th day of the 2d intercallary moon, His Majesty, the Emperor, issued the following decree: "Tsing Chi-tse (Marquis Tsing) vice President of the Board of Revenue, was a man of talents, wise in counsel and well versed in affairs, and in the discharge of the functions entrusted to him had shown diligence and ability. Of noble birth he entered official life receiving first a secretaryship to a Board and he came into the hereditary title of Marquis of the first rank.

In the reign of Tung Chih, by special edict, he was nominated Director of a Minor Court. After our succession to the Throne, he received several appointments and promotions in the Government service, advancing up to the position of Vice President of a Board. He was selected to represent China abroad, making himself fully acquainted with the intercourse and condition of affairs of the nations to which he was accredited, and in the conduct of business he fully understood his duty and rendered satisfactory aid assistance to us. Later, as Minister of the Tsung-li Yamên and associate director of the Board of Admiralty, in both of these offices he evinced a thorough devotion to duty.

Sometime ago he was suddenly taken ill with a slight ailment and we granted him leave to nurse himself so that he could restore his health and we could continue to rely on him or have the benefit of his official assistance. We have now been extremely pained at the announcement of his demise. As an extra mark of our favor we bestow on him the rank of "Junior Guardian of the

Heir Apparent." We also grant him such rewards as are provided by law for (deceased) Vice-Presidents. All penalties counted against his name are remitted. As to such further rewards that should be bestowed upon him, let the Board examine the Code and report to Us. Let his son, Tsêng Hwang Lien, after the first period of mourning has elapsed, be presented to Us, for audience, by the Board. His son Tsêng Hwang Chuan,

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a Second Class assistant Secretary of the Board of War, is hereby promoted to a Second Class Secretaryship, thus manifesting Our regard for a faithful and loyal Minister. Respect this"

As in duty bound, the Prince and Ministers send a copy of the above decree for Your Excellency's information.

A necessary communication addressed to

H. E. Charles Denby

" " "

Copy

Enclosure No. 2. in No. 1099.

Mr. Denby to Foreign Office

April 21. 1890.

Your Highness,
and
Your Excellencies:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the announcement that Your Highness and Your Excellencies have made to me of the death of the Marquis Tsêng. I have read with great interest, the decree of the Emperor which Your Highness and Your Excellencies have transmitted to me.

The untimely death of this distinguished man has filled me with sorrow. To his own countrymen as well as to foreigners his demise creates an irreparable loss. I have individually cause for profound sorrow because he and I were friends. The decree of the Emperor has so fitly characterized the great qualities of the late Marquis that nothing more can be said.

I beg to offer my condolence to Your Highness and Your Excellencies in the loss that the Tsung-li Yamēn has sustained

in the death of your
trusted associate -

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU,
JUN 18 W. F. [illegible]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED.

No 1100.

Legation of the United States.

Peking April 23rd 1890.

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack as read with interest. aaa
JUN 2 1890

3 June ✓

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

The relation of opium to the currency

Synopsis

The drain of silver illustrated

The plan of raising native opium to counteract the drain deprecated.

No 1100.

Legation of the United States.
Peking April 23rd 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

An accurate study of the Trade Returns for 1889, which were sent to you the 21st inst., will enable the relation of opium to the currency to be understood. In some of the ports it clearly appears that five sixths of the profits made by the people on the products raised and exported were thrown away on opium.

Swatow, for instance, needs in a year 7000 pieces of opium. The cost was probably $3.500.000. Swatow's chief product is sugar. The neighboring country produces $6.000.000 worth of sugar in a year. Thus more than half the amount realized on sugar went to pay for opium.

Other cities more or less disclose the same results.

China has undertaken to counteract the drain of silver for opium by raising the drug in her own provinces, thereby keeping money at home. That the policy of exploiting native coals and metals, of encouraging native manufacture of cotton and silk and other articles, would be a good policy for China, as it is for all other countries, cannot be denied. But this policy as applied to opium is the worst possible plan, because the use of the article is, always, and under all circumstances, — except as used medicinally — a mere waste, and because nine times out of ten it is injurious and often fatal to human health.

The proposed remedy against the drain of silver by fostering the native drug will, in its results, largely decrease the revenue of China; but it's worst effect will be, by furnishing a cheap article, to increase it's use.

There is, of course, no remedy to be applied by law that it would be proper for me to present officially to the Chinese Government. The only possible remedy is the activity of anti-opium propaganda. The missionaries are doing some effective though very limited work. The convert to Christianity must abjure the use of opium. There are opium hospitals, also, all over China where cases are scientifically treated and radical cures are effected. But in this vast population these results are nearly inappreciable.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

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Kieckhoefer

Separate.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 31 1890

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 26th, 1890.

Mr. F. D. Cheshire
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Duplicate Statement
of Salary Account
for Quarter Ending
March 31st, 1890.

Separate. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 26th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of my salary account for the quarter ending the 31st of March 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
F. D. Cheshire.
Interpreter of Legation

Enclosure 1. Duplicate Statement as above.

ieckshaufer

Separate.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 31 1890

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 26th, 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED.

Mr. F. D. Cheshire
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Duplicate account for Loss by Exchange, Quarter Ending March 31st. 1890.

Separate. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 26th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine.
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of my account for loss by Exchange for the quarter ending the 31st of March 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant
F. D. Cheshire.
Interpreter of Legation

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

eckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 31 1890

No 1101.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 26th, 1890

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Duplicate Salary Account
for Quarter ending March
31st 1890.

No 1101 One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 26th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington. D. C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of my salary account for the quarter ending March 31st, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Duplicate statement as above.

ieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
MAY 31 1890

No 1102.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 26th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject
Duplicate account for
Loss by Exchange for
Quarter ending March
31st 1890.

No 1102. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 26th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose herewith duplicate statement of my account for loss by Exchange for the Quarter ending the 31st March, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your obedient Servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate statement as above.

Hieckhoefer

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 31 1890

No 1103.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 26th, 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject
Duplicate Rent Account
for Quarter ending
March 31st, 1890.

No 1103. One enclosure

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 26th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate
3. statement of the Rent Account of this Legation for the Quarter ending March 31st, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Duplicate statement as above.

urolph

No 1104

Ack by 2 file

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU,
JUN 2 1890
Mr Cridler

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 26th, 1890.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED.

Mr. Charles Denby

to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Duplicate Return of
Passports for Quarter,
Ending March 31st 1890.

No 1104. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States
Peking, April 26th, 1890.

To the Honorable James. G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate Return of Passports issued by this Legation during the quarter ending the 31st of March 1890.

04.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant.
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1. Duplicate Return as above.

Duplicate.

STATEMENT OF PASSPORTS

sued at the Legation of the United States at Peking

from January 1st, 1890, to March 31st, 1890.

To accompany Dispatch No. 1104 of April 26th, 1890.

DATE.	TO WHOM ISSUED.	NUMBER.	EVIDENCE ON WHICH ISSUED.	FEE.
y 8	Murray. John	576	Passport 429. Peking October 8th, 1884	$1.
25	Cady. W. Olin	577	" 502. " September 20th, 1884	"
27	Reitz. Edward W.	578	W. S. Emens	"
"	Lancaster. R. V.	579	Passport 518. Peking, October 18th, 1887	"
"	Caldwell. Calvin N.	580	W. S. Emens	"
"	Williams. E. T.	581	W. S. Emens	"
y 26	Partch. Virgil F.	582	W. J. McKee	"
"	McKee. William J.	583	V. F. Partch	"
h 3	Jenkins. Horace	584	Passport 501. Peking, March 17th 1887	"
4	Janssen. D. C.	585	W. S. Emens	"
11	Wisner. Francis Oscar.	586	Passport 484. Peking August 30th, 1886	"
"	Butler. Electa M.	587	" 351. Peking July 18th, 1883	"
13	Williams. Mark	588	James Hudson Roberts	"
"	Roberts. James H.	589	Mark Williams	"

Duplicate

STATEMENT OF PASSPORTS

ued at the Legation of the United States at Peking,

from January 1st, 1890, to March 31st, 1890.

To accompany Dispatch No. 1104, of April 26th, 1890

DATE.	TO WHOM ISSUED.	NUMBER.	EVIDENCE ON WHICH ISSUED.	FEE.
h 13	McCartin. C	590	Robert W. Irwin	$1-
"	Gould Louis Agassiz	591	Horace Jenkins	"
24	Graham. James R.	592	James E Bear	"
31	McBrien. Edwin. M.	593	W. S. Emens	"

Charles Denby
United States Minister

Wieckhoefer

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
MAY 31 1890

No 1105.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 26th, 1890.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 29 1890
RECEIVED

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Duplicate account of
contingent Expenses for
quarter Ending March
31st. 1890.

No. 1105. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States
Peking, April 26th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of my account of contingent Expenses for the quarter ending March 31st, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Duplicate statement as above.

Sanders

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 11 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU Cridler
JUN 11 1890

No. 1106.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, April 27. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Encloses Analysis of
Tariff Returns lately
forwarded.

No. 1106.

Legation of the United States,
Peking April 27. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I forwarded to you on the 25th ultimo two volumes of Tariff Returns shewing the bearing of the Chinese Tariff of 1858 on the Trade of 1885. I enclose, herewith, three copies of an article cut from the North China News of April 3., which presents an analysis of these returns that may be of service to persons who desire to examine them.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

A YEAR'S TRADE AT THE TREATY PORTS AND ITS BEARING ON THE CUSTOMS TARIFF.*

The quarterly and annual returns of that portion of the trade of China under the control of the Customs Foreign Inspectorate, as furnished by the Custom Houses (now numbering twenty-three), and published with commendable care and punctuality by the Statistical Department at Shanghai, provide as much statistical information as to the nature and volume of the trade between the several Chinese ports and foreign countries as the average reader desires to obtain. But it is occasionally desirable to have that information imparted in a different and an even more complete way. Thus, instead of the statistics being set forth port by port, each complete in itself, it is of great advantage to have the articles of import and export arranged so as to show at a glance not only the quantity and value of the whole trade in each, but also the quantity and value of each at the respective ports. So, too, is it advantageous to have brought to light the statistics of the several articles comprised in those mysterious headings one constantly encounters in the Customs Trade Statistics, "Cotton Goods, Unclassed;" "Woollen Goods, Unclassed;" "Metals, Unclassed;" and the still more comprehensive "Sundries, Unenumerated." All this, and much more, is done in the two bulky volumes now before us, each containing some 500 pages; the trade of the year 1885 (when but nineteen Custom House were under foreign supervision, and before the Additional Articles of the Chefoo Convention had come into force) being that selected for analysis.

Nearly 300 pages of the first volume are occupied by a complete alphabetical list of the imports during the year from foreign countries into Chinese ports, giving the name of each article in English and Chinese; the port of importation and the quantity imported at each port; the country from which it came; its highest, lowest, and average value during the year; the Tariff rate of duty on it, and the amount per cent. of its value which the Tariff rate represents; and the estimated amount of duty derived from it during the year. Every article, from the most trifling to the most valuable, is here recorded; not even the four accordions imported at Swatow from Hongkong for 75 tael cents each, nor the two mops imported at Shanghai from Europe for two taels and a half each, being considered unworthy of mention in the list. As examples of the fluctuations in values, may be instanced deer horn cuttings from Annam, which varied at Swatow from 2 taels to 1,000 taels per picul, while rhinoceros horns varied from 40 taels per picul at some ports to 2,800 taels per picul at others, and Indian cow bezoar from 20 taels to 200 taels per catty! The particulars concerning native medicines occupy 70 pages of the list, while those relating to metals and cotton piece goods cover 16 and 14 pages respectively. This lengthy import list is classified in three other ways. One re-classification arranges in categories the articles imported according to the amount of duty yielded during the year, from those producing a total of HK. Tls. 100,000 and upwards, as crude foreign opium (over two million taels duty), cotton piece goods (over one million taels duty), woollen piece goods (over Tls. 295,000) and cotton yarn (over Tls. 270,000), to some 320 articles (of which but a dozen are mentioned in the Tariff) yielding less than one tael duty. Another re-classification arranges, also in categories, the articles imported according to the proportion which the duty bears to the value, from those having a duty percentage of over 20 to the extensive non-Tariff (and consequently 5 per cent. *ad valorem*) list and to the list of articles admitted free. From this arrangement one learns, for example, that second quality Japanese ginseng shows a percentage of 21.50 of duty on its average value; Turkey red cloths and cambrics, a percentage of between 10 and 15; English camlets, of 8.05; foreign brass buttons, of 7.45; crude foreign opium, an average of 7.30; white shirtings, of 3.60; cotton yarn, of 3.30; and American sheetings, of 3.15. Still another re-classification, which arranges the articles alphabetically and shows their respective rate of duty and percentage of average value, and the analysis of the import list is completed.

Having thus briefly described the method of analysing the list of imports into China, we have only to add that the exports from Chinese ports receive a like treatment, except that the native goods for native consumption carried coastwise in foreign vessels are accorded a separate list, in which the amount of export and coast trade duty yielded by each article is shown. In the second volume will be found an alphabetical list of the whole of the exports, covering some 240 pages, of which nearly 100 are occupied by a list of the native medicines; while for the several re-classifications of the list one has to refer back to the first volume. A careful study of these Returns will reveal many anomalies in regard to the proportion of duty borne by some articles to their value. In examining the export particulars, for instance, one is struck by the fact that black tea, from which in 1885 some four million taels duty was derived, had to bear a percentage of duty to its average value of 9.90; that green tea (over half a million taels duty) bore a like percentage of duty to value of 11.55; brick tea, of 12.45; and dust, of 54.20! We should have mentioned that the Inspector General's circular calling for these import and export statistics from the several ports prefaces the first volume, and this is followed by a carefully prepared abstract of the Customs revenue for 1885, showing the total amount of import, export, and coast trade duties collected, and the amounts contributed by the more important articles to the respective totals. More than half the second volume also is occupied by a translation into Chinese of three of the tables appearing in the first volume.

We may say, in conclusion, that the work, as a whole, reflects much credit on the Statistical Department. Issued at a reasonable price ($5), it will be found invaluable to the diplomatist, the statistician, the student, and, above all, to the merchant. Whether it be used as a means of disclosing additional information regarding the yearly import or export statistics, or the value, of a given article; or of obtaining particulars as to some little-known commodity; or of learning—what is perhaps nowhere else obtainable—the Chinese names or equivalents of the numerous articles; or of forming a basis for the next revision of the Tariff—it will, we think, in each of these respects, prove of exceptional value.

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* *Tariff Returns: a set of Tables showing the bearing of the Chinese Customs Tariff of 1858 on the Trade of 1885.* (Compiled from Returns of Imports and Exports carried in Foreign vessels in 1885.) Second Issue: in two volumes. Published by the Customs Statistical Department; and sold by Kelly and Walsh, Limited, Shanghai, Hongkong, Yokohama, and Singapore; also by P. S. King & Son, London. 1889.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 11 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
JUN 11 1890

Clark

No 1107.

Ack by No 766

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 28th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

— Subject —

Acknowledging despatches
Numbered 504 and 505.
with enclosures.

No. 1107.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 28th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine.
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, numbered 504 and 565 of date the 11th and 15th of March last, enclosing the Commissions of Mr. Edward Bedloe and Mr. Henry W. Andrews, appointed United States Consuls at Amoy and Hankow respectively.

I have made application to the Tsung li Yamen for the official recognition of these gentlemen by Exequatur in the usual manner and will inform them of the result.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.
Charles Denby

Scanlan

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 11 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JUN 11 1890

and
12 press

No. 1108.

Legation of the United States.

Peking April 30th 1890.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject.

Tea: the culture, curing and preparing for market thereof.

Synopsis

Encloses a translation of a paper lately read before the Oriental Society

(Filed for publication)

One enclosure.

No. 1108.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 30th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to send you a translation, made by me, of a paper on Tea, written in the French language. The paper was read by Monsieur H. Frandin, Secretary of the French Legation, at a late meeting of the Oriental Society at Peking.

The paper is a simple and plain but an accurate description of the raising, curing, preparing and sending to market of Chinese teas.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

1. As above.

No 1109.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 11 1890
RECEIVED.

Mr Cridler
To Int. Com. Com.
13 June

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 30th, 1890.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Interstate Commerce Com.
Ack. by Number and File.
JUN 11 1890 AAA

Mr. Charles Denby

to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Railroads in China

Synopsis

Reports determination to build a line from Kai Ping to Mo Kou Ying near Newchwang.

No 1109.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 30th, 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

In my despatch numbered 1082, of date the 1st of April, instant, I sent you information that the Tsungli Yamen had agreed to recommend to the throne the building of the following railroads: one from Kaiping to Kirin, one from Tientsin to Tungchow, and one from Lu Kou chiao, near Peking.

This information came to me direct from a member of the Yamen, and was regarded as practically reliable.

The death of the Marquis Tseng and a general want of fixed purpose on the part of this Government have now, it seems, produced a change of plans.

The latest information now is that the construction of the Hankow line is still in abeyance.

It is now proposed to build a line to a place called Mo Kou Ying near the Treaty port of Newchwang. It is said that the promoters are in favor of continuing the Kai Ping line to the place above named.

I learn that the project has been submitted to the throne and has received the Imperial sanction. The Viceroy Li Hung Chang has deputed two officers to survey the country and upon their report being made work will be commenced.

Perhaps the safest view to take of Railroad construction in China would be to wait before forming an opinion until work is actually begun. Even then doubts might be permissible as to permanent results.

But I send you no information not fully warranted at the time, and should not be held responsible for the whimsical action of this curious Government.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 20 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
JUN 21 1890 W Cridler

No 111[illegible].

Legation of the United States.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack by subject & file
aaa
JUN 21 1890

Peking, May 5th, 1890.

✓ ans 25 June

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State.

Subject

Announces his departure for Canton on the 7th inst.

No 1110.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, May 5th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that by virtue of your telegram of April 17th authorizing me to visit Canton, I shall leave Peking the 7th inst., with Mr. F. D. Cheshire as Interpreter.

The Admiral has put the "Swatara" at my disposition. She will meet me at Chefoo the 15th inst. I will proceed to Shanghai and thence after a few days to Canton.

As I do not know the length of time that the "Swatara" may have been put at my disposition I cannot now say what ports other than Canton I will visit, but it is likely that I will go to Foochow, Amoy and Ningpo. I desire to call at the two latter ports if the newly appointed Consuls shall have arrived.

I shall see Li Hung-chang at Tientsin and take letters to his brother, the Viceroy at Canton, and I hope to be able to settle the Kuai-ping claim.

During my absence Mr. Howard Martin will be in charge of the Legation; with the Second Secretary, who is completely qualified to act in that capacity, as interpreter.

My correspondence with the Department will be kept up by me personally as on former trips.

I beg leave to return to you my thanks for your permission to make this trip which will be a benefit to me personally and I hope not without advantage to the Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 20 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
JUN 21 1[illegible]

Mr Cridler

No. 1111.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, May 5. 1890.

✓ Ans'd 25 June

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Acknowledges No. 507, ✓ Encloses duplicate 1013, and refers to missing despatches.

No. 1111.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, May 5. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 507 of March 18th 1890, wherein you direct me to forward duplicates of my numbers
mp'd nil vious was no 939
1013, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, and 939. Taking these in their order I have to say that I enclose a duplicate of number 1013. It bears date December 9th 1889, and if it had not reached you in March it may have been lost.

No. 1028 bore date Jany 10th 1890

1890. It is a statement of the contingent expenses of this Legation for the quarter ending Decr. 31st 1889. No. 1029 bore date Jany. 11th 1890. It is a duplicate statement of my salary account for the same quarter. No. 1030 bore date Jany. 11th 1890 It is a duplicate statement of my account for loss by exchange for the same quarter. No. 1031 bore date Jany. 11. 1890. It is a duplicate statement of the Rent account for the same quarter.

It is apparent that it will take several weeks to prepare duplicates of the said despatches Many of the vouchers came from Shanghai. If certified copies were allowable they could be more readily furnished, but your instruction is to send duplicates.

As I am about to leave for the South and cannot give my personal attention to this matter for some time, I am induced to ask that you allow me to wait further instructions before sending on the duplicates - especially as you did not know the character of the missing despatches. At the date of the said despatches, the postal service was done between Peking and Chinkiang by ponies. Delays frequently occurred. You could not ordinarily have received despatches mailed here January 11th before March 11th. Your despatch to me bears date March 18th, so that there has been only a week's delay in the receipt of the said despatches.

As, hitherto, there has been no loss of any despatch, I am induced to believe that the said despatches have reached you already. If you inform me, in answer to this despatch, that the said despatches have not arrived, duplicates or copies will be sent as required.

✓ As to despatch No. 939, no such number was ever sent. My archives contain a statement of that fact. I am unable to say how the error occurred.

It happens frequently that all the four members of this Legation are preparing despatches at the same times. It is difficult to avoid clerical errors in numbering sometimes. But I shall exercise especial caution hereafter that no such errors occur.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 20 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
JUN 21 1890 Mr Cridler

Ack by Mr Hale

Nº 1112.

Legation of the United States.

Peking May 5th 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Acknowledging despatches.

No. 1112.

Legation of the United States.
Peking May 5th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches No's 506, 507 and 508 of March 18th; 509 of March 20th; 510 of March 24th and your circular of March 20th, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 20 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

JUN 21 1890 Mr. Cridler

No. 1113.

Legation of the United States.
Peking May 5th 1890.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack and approve.
AAA
JUN 21 1890

Ans'd 25 June

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State

Ans'd

Subject

"The case of Louis McCaslin
for damages

Synopsis

Encloses copy of a communication
sent to the Foreign Office

One enclosure.

No. 1113.

Legation of the United States.
Peking May 5th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In further reply to your despatch No. 510, of March 24th 1890, relating to the claim of Louis McCaslin for injuries received by the wrongful closing of a bridge of boats at Ningpo, April 29th 1888, I have the honor to state that I have sent to the Foreign Office a communication of which a copy is herewith enclosed.

I

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

1. Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office May 5th 1890.

Enclosure in No. 1113.

Copy

No. 5.

Legation of the United States.
Peking May 5th 1890.

Your Highness and
Your Excellencies:

I have the honor to inform Your Highness and Your Excellencies that I have received instructions from my Government to again bring to your attention the necessity of having a joint investigation in the McCaslin case – being a claim against the Government of China for injuries suffered by Louis McCaslin at Ningpo April 29th 1888.

As the most satisfactory mode of communicating the views of my Government I have the honor to send you a translation of the material part of the despatch that I have received.

"I have to inform you that

the Department has received from Mr. Pettus, United States Consul at Ningpo, a despatch bearing date the 12th of February, in which he transmits copies of his correspondence with yourself and the Taotai and a report of the evidence in the case.

"The purpose of the new investigation of the matter by Mr. Pettus and the Taotai was to take the evidence of the native and the foreign witnesses jointly. Each side had previously examined it's own witnesses separately and for this reason each refused to accept the testimony taken by the other.

"It thus became necessary, in order to secure a common ground for discussion, to have all the testimony taken jointly by the representatives of the United States and China. This point is made clear by the correspondence in the case and by your instructions to Mr. Pettus. The only explanation of his omission to produce his witnesses is found in the response of the Taotai to his inquiry whether the foreign witnesses should be called. "If", said Mr. Pettus, in his letter to the Taotai of April 15th 1889 "you also wish that the foreign witnesses be called in again and their evidence retaken, I can have them summoned for the date decided upon."

" In his letter of the 1st of May 1889, the Taotai, replying to Mr. Pettus inquiry said 'I beg to state you must suit yourself about the foreign witnesses'.

"From this Mr. Pettus inferred, and seems to have had good grounds to infer, that the presence and re-examination of the foreign witnesses would not be required.

"The natural construction of the Taotai's language would be that if Mr. Pettus desired to re-examine his witnesses for the purpose of eliciting new evidence he would be at liberty to do so, but that, if he preferred, he might let the claimant's case rest on the evidence already taken. When, however, the Taotai had examined the native witnesses, he closed the case, refusing to consider the evidence of the foreign witnesses previously taken, and rendered a decision against the claimant.

"The first and only object of the re-examination of the case was thus completely defeated, by a misunderstanding for which the Taotai was certainly largely responsible and of which he took advantage.

"It cannot be said that there has been any joint investigation of the case in the sense in which that term was understood by yourself and the Imperial Authorities, when Mr. Pethus and the Taotai were respectively instructed to proceed to the re-examination of the matter.

> The Imperial Government should not permit a fair and just consideration of the case to be prevented by such a misunderstanding between the Consul and the Taotai, or permit an adverse judgement of so doubtful a character to stand.
>
> "You are instructed to communicate these views to the Imperial Government."

I made substantially the same argument to Your Highness and Your Excellencies on divers occasions.

My Government puts the facts and the law in a very strong light and I trust that Your Highness will now see the propriety of setting aside the judgement complained of and that justice may be done.

I

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Highness and Your Excellencies the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

(sg'd) Charles Denby.

Mr. Cridler

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 20 1890
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
JUN 21 1890

Ack. The suggestion in Mr. Von Brandt's memorandum that the period of validity of transit passes in the several districts and treaty ports of China be determined by mutual agreement between the customs and the consular representatives of the treaty powers appears to be proper and necessary.
A.A.A.

ans'd 27 June

No. 1114.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
JUN 21 1890

Legation of the United States
Peking, May 10th, 1890

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject
Limitation of Transit Passes.

Synopsis
Encloses note from Foreign Office on this subject and reply of Denby.

No: 1114. Two Enclosures
Legation of the United States,
Peking, May 10. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a copy of a note from the Foreign Office, received at this Legation yesterday.

As you will see, the discussion of the limitation of the duration of transit passes has been directly induced by the presentation of a transit pass issued twelve years since at Tientsin, the pass proving good by the insistance of H. B. M's. Consul (Bullock) at that port. He claimed, correctly, that Tientsin was not included among those ports where transit passes were issued with any fixed limit for expiration.

The native authorities are now urgent in their desires and measures to place a limit of time on such passes at this port and such other ports not already included, with a view of preventing any recurrence of irregularities.

2/ Incl I also enclose a copy of a note from H. E. the German Minister, which will explain an excellent suggestion to his Colleagues and to the Foreign Office that these limitations be determined and arrived at by the Chinese authorities with the Consuls, not confining such deliberations to the Customs Taotais and Commissioners to the exclusion of the Consuls.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosures
No. 1. Yamên to Minister.
2. Doyen " "

o.1.

Enclosure in No. 1114

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

No. 4. May 10. 1890.

Your Excellency:

With reference to the transit memoranda, in triplicate issued for the exportation of native produce, the Inspector General of customs proposed, in the 11th year of T'ung Chih (1873), a limit of time within which they should be delivered for cancellation. This limit was: for the province in which the pass was issued, fifty days; for adjoining provinces, one hundred days; for distant provinces two hundred days. To exceed the limit constituted a violation of the Customs Regulations entailing confiscation of all the goods.

In the 11th moon of that year, (1873) and again in the 11th moon of the 2d Kuanghsu (January 1877) this Yamên communicated these proposals for the information of the representatives of the various countries resident at Peking, from whom one after the other replies were received agreeing that they should be adopted.

At various subsequent dates, viz: in the 8th moon of 3d Kuang-hsü (1877) 1st and 2d moons 5th Kuang-hsü (1879), 9th moon 7th Kuang-hsü (1881), the Yamên received despatches from the Southern Superintendent of Trade and the Governor-General of the Liang Kuang stating that they were in receipt of reports from Chinkiang, Wuhu, Pakhoi, Kiungchow, and Canton stating that the customs Taotais together with the consuls, the commissioners of customs, and the Inspector General of Customs had decided upon limits which would govern transit passes for native goods. At Ching Kiang and Wuhu the limit was put at half a year; at Pakhoi six months; at Kiungchow three months; and at Canton, for the province of Canton itself, three months, and for going beyond the province six months. Penalties for exceeding the allotted time were to be exacted in accordance with the regulations. This system of limits, once in operation, was found satisfactory to the mercantile community generally and, though long in operation, no irregularities were discovered.

We have now, however, received from the Northern Superintendent of Trade a despatch stating that, on the 12th day, 2d Intercallary moon of the 16th Kuang-hsü (April 1st 1890) a boatman, Chang Yu-te having, as cargo, 116 packages of wool, arrived at the Hung Ch'iao (Red Bridge) subordinate customs station and tendered for examination a pass in triplicate, Tientsin No. 178, originally issued to the English firm of (Wilson & Co.) Hsin T'ai Hsing, authorizing the purchase of native goods at Tu-lu-Hsien (a village S.W. of Tientsin). Investigation shewed that it had been issued on the 12th day of the 5th moon of 4th Kuang-hsü (June 1878) that it was twelve years old. Fraud being suspected the Customs Taotai submitted the man to an oral examination. While conducting the examination, however, he received a note from Consul Bullock requesting that the man be released. No limits for the expiration of these passes having ever been established at Tientsin, the Customs Taotai yielded to the request and discharged the boatman. He wrote, at once to the Consul, however, urging that deliberations be entered into with a view to the establishment of definite limits for transit passes at Tientsin in accordance with the procedure at the other ports, which limits, once agreed upon, would prevent the recurrence of such irregularities hereafter. The Superintendent of Trade having received this report requests that this case be definitely decided and that the Yamên communicate the matter to all the representatives of the foreign countries resident at Peking. We have replied to the Superintendent of Trade to transmit orders to the said Customs Taotai to come to some satisfactory arrangement of the present case with the Consul, and we have also written to the Northern and Southern Superintendents of Trade to direct the Inspector General of Customs to ascertain what ports have no established limits for duration of transit passes, and to order the Customs Taotais and the Commissioners of Customs at such places, taking into consideration the particular circumstances of each locality, to establish limits for duration of transit passes, in accordance with regulations, making a distinction for the time allowed in nearer and remoter places. Should a merchant have any real causes for delay, he may, before the expiration of the limited time, make application for an extension in accordance with the rules. This will be granted as a favor to him. We communicate this matter for your Excellency's information and we hope you will order the Consuls at the various ports concerned to act in accordance with the spirit of this despatch. Thus we hope frauds and irregularities will be avoided and that mercantile affairs will more and more favorably progress with lapse of time.

Confident of Your Excellency's cordial good will in the transaction of business with us, we are sure to receive as early as possible a reply from you.
A necessary communication addressed to

His Excellency
Charles Denby,
U. S. Minister.

Mr. von Brandt has the honor to present his compliments to his Colleagues and to place the following proposal before them.

In the Yamên's note of the 9th instant on the subject of the fixation of the duration of the export transit passes, the Yamên states that the Taotais or Commissioners of Customs at those ports where such measures had not yet been introduced, would be instructed to fix a time they thought adequate.

In the same note it is, however, mentioned that at Ching Kiang, Wuhu, Pakhoi, Kiung chow, and Canton, similar measures had been introduced after an understanding had been arrived at between the Chinese authorities and the Treaty Powers.

Would it not be well under the

the circumstances to tell the Yamên that while approving its principle of the measure proposed, the foreign Representatives thought that if it were based, as in the former cases quoted by the Yamên, upon a joint understanding between the Chinese authorities and the Consuls, the interests of the Customs as well as of the Mercantile community would be best protected and future reclamations and difficulties avoided?

If his colleagues should approve of this proposal, each Legation might draft her answer in the same sense.

Mr. von Brandt avails himself of this opportunity to renew to his colleagues the assurance of his highest consideration.

Peking, May 9. 1890.

Mr Taylor

No 1115

Acknowledged August 11/90. Mosher.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, May 22d, 1890

AUG 5 1890
RECEIVED

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack as read with much interest - aaa
AUG 8 1890

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
AUG 11 1890

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Report of interview with Viceroy Li Hung Chang.

Synopsis

Viceroy understands that a new Exclusion Act has been passed by Congress, is in favor of a new treaty and has telegraphed Chinese Minister at Washington to that effect. Mr. Denby gives salient points of interview with Viceroy, etc:-

No. 1115.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, May 22d, 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to send you a report of my interview at Tientsin with the Viceroy Li Hung Chang.

I arrived at Tientsin the 9th instant. The Viceroy received me at his Yamen Monday the 12th. There were present Consul Bowman, the Interpreter, Mr. Cheshire, the Haikwan Taotai and Lo Feng Lo, the Viceroy's English interpreter.

After a few commonplace remarks the Viceroy said that he understood the United States had passed a law

embodying

excluding all Chinese from going to the United States.

I said that I had no information that such a law had been passed, that I knew a bill having for it's purpose the exclusion of Chinese had been introduced into Congress but I had not heard that it had become a law. I said to him that we had in the two houses of Congress something over four hundred members, and many bills were introduced that did not become laws.

He said if the United States excludes the Chinese we will exclude Americans from China.

I said you cannot scare me by this threat. You will never exclude the Americans. It would be the height of folly, even idiocy, for China to adopt such a policy. The conditions of the two countries are essentially different. The great body of the Americans in China are Missionaries. There are not many American merchants in China. I said that as to the religious labors of the missionaries I had nothing to say. But that their educational, medical, and philanthropical labors were all exclusively for the benefit of the Chinese; that they spent large sums of money in China and took none out of it; that the crowning glory of China since 1858, was its religious toleration; that it tolerated Buddhists, Taoists, Mohammedans, Roman Catholics and Protestants all alike, and that he was too great a man to entertain for a moment the idea of changing the policy of China in this regard.

He said all that was true, but still China to save its face might be compelled to retaliate in kind.

I said that the Chinese who were lawfully in my country have ten times the rights that any foreigner had in China. That once in the country they went where they pleased, engaged in any species of business, and, except that the right to vote was denied them, they had all the rights that the native Americans had, and were subject no less and no more than the native American to the law of the land, and to that only. Whereas that in China the foreigner, except the Missionaries, was restricted for residential purposes to comparatively few ports, and could not even there engage in manufacturing.

He asked me to wire you to ask you to use your influence to prevent the enactment of Anti-Chinese legislation. I said that it did not come within the purview of my duty to send such a message, that you were as well posted on Chinese matters as I, and that as an Executive officer, I could not take it upon myself to make any such suggestion to my Government. I said that I would report the substance of our interview and that is all that it was proper for me to do.

He said that Chang Chih Tung had advised him to refuse the last indemnity that the United States had paid. I said that if Chang Chih Tung had done that he had changed his views after I saw him, because he made an agreement with me that there should never be another riot in Canton in consideration of my giving to the Secretary of State a request to accelerate the payment of that indemnity.

He said Chang Chih Tung had also advised him to procure an Imperial Edict excluding Americans from China, but that he had refused to do so.

I said I knew he had, and I was perfectly sure that he never would adopt a policy so injurious to China.

He said that Chang Yin Huan, the Chinese Minister to Washington had been overreached by my Government in making the Treaty of 1888.

I said, I begged leave to differ with

him, that Chang had not put a line in that treaty that he was not ordered by the Tsungli Yamen to place in it, that I had the written proof of that statement in my Legation; that the question of making a new treaty had originated with the Yamen, and its instructions were literally obeyed; that it specifically stated what it wanted done, and nothing more or less was done than it directed.

He said the Yamen had made a mistake.

I said I thought it had not, but had acted wisely, that the Yamen understood perfectly that our settled policy was to exclude Chinese coolies, and not to permit any of them who left the United States ever to return, that this policy was necessary in order to prevent the barter and sale of certificates of return at Canton and Hongkong. The Yamen recognized that this policy was inevitable, and wisely agreed to give it the sanction of a treaty.

I said that everything worked well until the British Minister by the orders of Lord Salisbury demanded that China should grant to Australia the same rights that were granted to the United States by the treaty of 1888. Then China, for the first time, objected to the terms of that treaty.

The Viceroy said that was exactly true.

The Viceroy said that he had always been friendly to Americans and still was, that all he wanted was that China should save her face.

I said that China must openly and squarely recognize that the Emigration of coolies to the United States should cease forever; that as to other matters of difference they were the subjects of further discussion.

He said he had already wired

his Minister at Washington to initiate proceedings looking to the making of a new treaty.

I told him that this was perfectly legitimate, that under the treaties either nation had the right to protest against the legislation or decrees of the other, and, of course, China at anytime could propose a new treaty.

I stated that it was a matter of regret that two such great nations could not definitely settle the differences between them, and that the gradual drifting into mutual antagonisms ought, if possible, for the interest of both countries to be avoided.

He said that we had by passing the Exclusion Act violated the provisions of the Treaty of 1880.

I said that the Exclusion Act was passed because China had refused to ratify the Treaty of 1888.

After

she had induced us to make it and then she repudiated it, and she had nobody to blame but herself for the legislation that she complained of.

In this lengthy interview there was much other discussion pro and con, but it would serve no good purpose to detail it word for word. The manner of the Viceroy indicated that he himself treated the idea of excluding Americans from China as an idle threat. He would frequently, when I pressed him strongly, break out in a loud laugh.

He is serious in the intention to endeavour to secure a new treaty. He desires only that China shall not lose the respect of other nations. If any scheme can be devised by which China can "save her face" he will surrender all the points that the United States may insist on, asking only that the machinery of the transaction shall be a treaty and not a statute, except one made in pursuance of a treaty.

The Viceroy was very friendly with me. He gave me a magnificent dinner at which all the Consuls attended, the evening of the 13th instant. He gave me a letter of introduction to his brother the Viceroy at Canton.

Neither the Corean Question, nor the subject of the Russo-Chinese Telegraphic Convention was touched on.

I left Tientsin on the 15th instant, on a steam launch to join the "Hsin Sheng" bound for Chefoo. The Peiho river has silted up so that steamers cannot reach Tientsin. We boarded the "Hsin Sheng" about 9 o'clock a.m. twelve miles below the city.

We arrived at Chefoo the 16th at 5 P.M. I found the "Swatara" waiting for me. A communication from the Admiral informed me that the "Swatara" had a defective crank, and that he had ordered the "Monocacy" to meet me at Shanghai. We left Chefoo the morning of the 17th instant and arrived at Shanghai on the 20th instant, from which port I send this despatch. I shall leave for Canton in a day or two.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Charles Denby

7 Ju

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
AUG 7 1890

No. 1116
Legation of the United States,
Peking, May 29. 1890.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 6 1890
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Acknowledges receipt
of despatches.

No. 1116

Legation of the United States,
Peking May 29. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as below:

No. 512 of April 12.
" 513 " 18.
" 514 " "
" 515 " "
" 516 " "
" 517 " "

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Mr Taylor

Sep.

5 1890
CEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking June 6th 1890.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Grant as asked
aaa
AUG 7 1890

Mr. Denby Jr. to the
Secretary of State. ✓ ack'd Aug 8/90 Philp

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
AUG 8 1890

Subject

Requests leave of absence.

Dep.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 6th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to apply for the statutory sixty days leave of absence, without permission to return to the United States. I have the honor to state that this leave, if granted, will be availed of during the autumn of this year at whatever time will be found to least interfere with my duties as Second Secretary of this Legation.

Chas. Denby Jr.
Second Secretary
of Legation.

Telegram received
from U. S. Legation in China
Filed under June 8, 1890.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

JUL 7 1890

✓ To Mr Denby
July 8/90
Phil

CABLE MESSAGE.

E WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

	RECD BY	No. OF WORDS	FROM
1	[illegible]	6	Canton

6 54a June 8 18

Blaine

Washn

Claims settled

enby

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
AUG 7 1890

Mr Cridler

No 1117.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 11th 1890.

OF STATE
G 6 1890
CEIVED

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Forwards Customs Returns of Trade.

No 1117.

Legation of the United States.
Peking June 11th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine.
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward to you by this mail, under separate cover, duplicate copies of the Customs Returns of Trade and Trade Reports, for the year 1889. A summary of these returns was sent to the Department in my 1098 of the 22nd of April. I also forward by this mail duplicate copies of the Customs Gazette, January-March, 1890.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

File Mr Taylor

No. 1118
Legation of the United States,
Peking June 17. 1890.

G 6 1890
CEIVED

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File. aaa
AUG 7 1890

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
AUG 8 1890

1.

Subject

Reported petition of elders of adjacent large cities to the Viceroy Li Hung Chang, and the seventh Prince, for the building of the Tientsin-Tungchow Railway.

No. 1118.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, June 17. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report a rumor afloat here that nearly all the elders of Tientsin and large adjacent towns have presented a petition setting forth at length the advantages and utility of constructing the proposed Tientsin-Tungchow Railway, to His Excellency the Viceroy Li Hung Chang, and the Seventh Prince.

The petitioners also say that the necessary money will be raised by them among the Chinese merchants, if they be granted permission to do so. The movement is headed by Li, an Elder who has great influence among both the Literati and merchants. His Excellency, the Viceroy Li will doubtless be glad to assist them to make this move a success. He was the first promoter of this scheme which was shelved after the occurrence of the Railway accident in the Tientsin-Tongku Line. The public now seems better prepared to accept a railway to Tungchow, the Peking terminus, twelve miles from the city.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

7 de

Mr Taylor

No. 1119

Legation of the United States,
Peking, June 18. 1890.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 6 1890
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack by ~~[illegible]~~ + file.
AAA
AUG 7 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

DIPLOMATI

Subject

The Missionary Conference
recently held in Shanghai.

Synopsis

Résumé of its objects and
work.

No. 1119.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, June 19. 1890

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward, herewith, a cursory review or résumé of the recent Missionary Conference, held in Shanghai.

This gathering, composed of four hundred and thirty persons, and representing both sexes engaged in missionary work, from all parts of China proper, from Manchuria, from Japan, from the East Indies and from India, was called together at heavy expense of time and money and to the interruption of their ordinary work. It will, undoubtedly, give to isolated and perhaps discouraged workers new energy, and the personal contact of men and women, their interchange of views and experiences, and the several essays read will prove an educating force of supreme value in the wide diversity of organization to be found in Mission work in China. These essays, more than fifty in number, comprised exhaustive treatises on topics of interest and importance to Missionaries as also brief synopses of general principles.

The first object of the Conference was to determine a means of getting a proper translation of the Bible — a translation that would meet the dialects of all classes and provinces. The dialects of China are so numerous, a translation that might suit a Northern province could not be understood in any part of the South. Added to these difficulties too are those of rightly translating the words "God," "Spirit," and "Baptise," with proper dignity and force. In regions where "Mandarin" is spoken (and they are vast) Missionaries seemed content to render the Holy Scripture in this tongue; while those working in Central and Southern coast provinces found it necessary to commit to writing the local dialects.

The perpetuation of the old translations with the addition of many new ones has been a bewildering multiplication of "Versions," of which the evils have been universally felt

and

lamented. These opposing elements all became yielding in the universal desire to get a "Union version," and showed a gratifying spirit of concession and adjustment. Committees were formed, for active work, consisting of five Englishmen, five Americans, and two Germans, representing ten different societies. Another committee was nominated to put the Bible and other works into raised text for the benefit of the blind. The realization of these plans will certainly justify every expense of the Conference. The Conference issued strong protests against the growth and sale of opium as also anti-opium pills containing morphia; it appointed committees to enquire into the use of alcoholic liquors by the Chinese native Christians, and also one to present a statement to the Chinese Government, making it clear to those in authority in China, what Christianity is and what it aims at; and while thanking the Government for its protection in the past, asking for the immediate and effectual suppression of libellous charges against Christian Missions. It seems not unlikely that such a statement, emanating from all the Missionaries in China, may receive considerate attention from the Chinese Government.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Mr Taylor

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File.
AUG 22 1890

No. 1120.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, June 27. 1890.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 20 1890
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State –

Subject –

The resignation of Captain Lang, R. N., of the post of Co-admiral in the Chinese service.

Synopsis.

Cause which lead to the resignation. Seeming determination of the native authorities to withdraw their naval administration from the hands of Foreign Officers.

No. 1120.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, June 27. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report to you a few facts in connection with the recent resignation from the Chinese naval service, of Captain Lang, of H. M's. navy — formerly, — from the position of Co-Admiral. The prompt acceptance of this resignation from a post rendered no longer tenable, declares the settled determination of China to admit no foreigner longer to a post of trust in her militant services. Chinese ingenuity and astuteness have been fully evidenced by the subterfuges employed to conceal this policy in order to make the service palatable to Captain Lang and admissible under the rules of the English Admiralty. It seems that the vessel which carried Co. Admiral Lang put in to Hong Kong floating the Admiral's flag. He went ashore for a few hours and on his return to the ship found his own flag replaced by the Captain's. No explanation was offered or given. Admiral Lang returned to shore and demanded the proper punishment of the officer in charge. This being refused him, he had no course left but to resign. Whether H. E. The Viceroy is a free agent in such matters, or whether he is the slave of

a

a system which is bound fast in the traditions of the Empire is uncertain. The question which really interests not only China but foreign Powers, friendly or hostile to the development of her military strength, is what attitude she means to assume finally towards those external influences which she cannot escape. The employment of foreign auxiliaries for many recent years, and the extensive use made of Western teaching and ideas in the science and art of War, have failed to eradicate the constitutional distrust of foreigners in the Chinese Mind. This is the more remarkable now, when before the Government is the fact of the faithful and valuable service it has received from its foreign employés in all departments. Admiral Lang on assuming his second term of service promised that "with a free hand he would in five years make the Navy fit for war." His record shews that he has spared no labor to redeem this promise, and he has made almost incredible progress towards it. The recent action of the Viceroy can, therefore, mean but the ridding the service of foreigners, to which motive may also be added, in this especial case, a constant intriguing among Native officers to displace an officer who blocked the way to their legitimate ambition.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

File

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File.
AUG 22 1890

Mr Snyder

No. 1121

Legation of the United States,
Peking, June 28. 1890.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 20 1890
RECEIVED.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
AUG 22 1890

Subject

The Telegraph Convention.

Synopsis

Chinese officials beginning to realize how derogatory such a concession would be to native interests.

No. 1121

Legation of the United States,
Peking, June 28. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a cutting from one of the leading journals relative to the settlement of the Telegraph Convention. It confirms my best hopes as expressed in my No. 1076 of March 28. 1890.

The Viceroy Li Hung Chang was my most active opponent and if the enclosed statement be true it is very gratifying - as he must have been convinced largely by the argument, requested from me by the Tsung-li Yamên as to the disadvantages arising to China from this convention.

Be that as it may, I send the clipping as a seemingly reliable "on dit." I regret being unable to furnish two copies as usual with all cuttings.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

WE hear on the highest authority that in interviews recently H.E. Li Hung-chang has stated in so many words that the obnoxious Telegraph Convention is dead. The argument which has had most weight against it has been, that it is derogatory to China to give up her telegraphic independence in exchange for the comparatively trifling subsidy that the two cable companies offered her. So pertinacious, however, are the cable companies that we do not suppose the Foreign Ministers who are opposed to the Convention, and the Chambers of Commerce, can safely relax their vigilance altogether; though the Tsungli Yamên will be less ready to listen to the companies, now that it realises what an injury to China's "face" the ratification of the Convention would be. To the American and German Ministers the thanks of the public are mainly due for the success that has been achieved in the struggle; a struggle in which the best interests of China and the interests of all who use the cables have been opposed to the desire of the two cable companies to secure a practical monopoly for some fourteen years.

hlip.
r Kirkhoffer

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
AUG 7 1890

Sep.

G 6 1890
CEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking June 30th 1890.

Mr. Denby Jr. to the
Secretary of State

Subject
Salary and exchange account.

Two enclosures.

Dep.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, June 30th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose my salary account for the quarter ending this date, and my account for loss by exchange on the draft drawn against it.

For the amount of this loss I have drawn my draft on the Honorable Secretary of State.

I have the honor

to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby Jr.

Second Secretary.

Enclosures:

Accounts as above

Mr Taylor
Mr Kieckhoefer

AUG 28 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 28 1890
RECEIVED.

Sep

Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 1st 1890.

Mr. Martin
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Salary account for
Quarter ending
June 30. 1890.

Sepp.

Legation of the United States,
Peking July 1. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, statements of my "Salary account and Loss by Exchange" for quarter ending June 30. 1890. I have drawn draft, in the usual way, for Exchange Loss, say $44.56

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Howard Martin
Secretary of Legation.

Enclosures
Salary account
Loss by Exchange

ackd by tel + file

Mr Tayl

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 28 1890
RECEIVED.

No. 1122

Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 24. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
28 1890

Subject.

Acknowledges Despatches.

No. 1122

Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 24. 1890

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge your despatches Nos. 511 of April 9. 1890 to No. 536 . June 6. 1890, inclusive.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Mr. Cridler

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
SEP 23 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED

Van D
24 Sep

No. 123.
Legation of the United States,
Peking July 25. 1890.

This despatch is unsigned. Cridler

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject.

Encloses communications from Tsung-li Yamên and the Minister's replies to them touching the Chinese in the United States.

3
2
1123

No. 1123.
Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 25. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to Enclose a translation of a communication bearing date June 16. 1890, lately sent to me by the Tsung-li Yamên; also a translation of another communication bearing date June 17. 1890; also copies of my replies to these two communications. The delay in forwarding these papers was caused by my absence from Peking.

It will be seen that the first of these communications relates mainly to the act of October 1888, being the the Chinese Exclusion act, and that it recites that substantially similar enquiries were made by the Chinese Minister at Washington of yourself and of your predecessor. While it must be admitted that under the IV article of the Treaty of 1880 it is entirely competent for the Yamên to address complaints to me touching any legislative act, nevertheless under the circumstances it seemed prudent for me not to take up the proposed discussion until I had presented the matter to you and received your instructions. I answered the Yamên in that sense.

The communication of June 17. is mostly directed against the lately proposed Chinese enumeration bill, and the San Francisco ordinance which has for its purpose to confine Chinese residents to certain designated localities. I have replied to the Yamên that my information was that the Enumeration bill had been laid on the table in the Senate, and that the ordinance mentioned would be tested in the Courts before any action would be had under it. It seemed to me unnecessary to discuss at this time the provisions of either measure.

This conduct is in accordance with the

Treaty which applies only to measures "as effected."

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosures.

No. 1 Tsungli Yamên to Minister
" 2 " " "
" 3 {1 Minister to Tsungli Yamên
{2 " " " "

Mr. Denby from the Yamên.

June 17. 1890.

Your Excellency:

It is customary to speak of the relations between China and the U.S. as characterized by continuous cordiality. The Treaties which China has on various occasions entered into with the U.S. have all been animated with the intention to protect the interests of American citizens. The U.S., however, because of discrimination against Chinese laborers have repeatedly enacted laws in violation of Treaty, and all having for their object the maltreatment and injury of Chinese subjects. We have lately received from H. E. Mr. Tsüi, minister to the U.S., a communication wherein he says that the Lower House of the U. S. Congress has had under discussion recently the enacting of a vexatious law requiring the enumeration of the Chinese in the U. S. In California, moreover, a statute has been recently enacted driving out and expelling the Chine from the larger cities. On reading this very great was our indignatio and grief. The II Art. of the supplementary Treaty between China and the U. S. of the 6th Kuang Hsü (1880), says that Chinese merchants "and Chinese laborers, who are now in the U.S., shall be allowed to go and come of their own free will and accorded all the rights, privileges, immunities and exemptions which are accorded to citizens and subjects of the most favored nation" (clause), Article III says, "If Chinese laborers or Chinese of any other class, now either permanently or temporarily residing in the territory of the U. S., meet with ill treatment at the hands of any other persons, the Government of the U. S. will exert all its power to devise measures for their protection and secure to them the same rights, privileges, immunities, and exemptions, as may be enjoyed by the citizens or subjects of the most favored nation, and to which they are entitled by treaty." The vexatious law for the enumeration of the Chinese seems to be not only a contradiction of the "favored nation" clause in the successive Treaties between China and the U. S., but a violation of the Constitution on which your government is built. In the law for the driving out and expulsion of the Chinese and the limitation of their residence hereafter to a particular locality no inquiry has been mad as to whether they had propert or not. They are all alike to be forced into one narrow place and not allowed the usual privileges of residence. After sixty days those not drive out shall be ordered to prison We do not know whether the Chinese now residing in the U. S are all those who in former times went thither under the Treaty which your government entered into with China in order to authorize their going. Their strength, however, was availed of and their labor used. Afterwards as soon as the railroad had pierced throug to California and when busines flourished, the virtues of the Chinese were no longer remembered and they were regarded as enemies. At first hostility arose, then there was burning of houses, then there was expulsion of Chinese, now they are to be forced to live in one locality and be allowed no residence elsewhere. It seems that they are to be gathered together to inflict further injuries on them. This is a contradiction of those words of the Treaty which say they may "go and come of their own free will and accord" while the proposed imprisonment after sixty days is a nullification of that Treaty clause which speaks of enjoying the advantages of the subjects of the "most favored nation". Should such acts as these originate with the citizens or subjects of another country, should they so insult and illtreat the Chinese laborers, the Government of your honored country would be in duty bound to "exert all its power to devise measures for their protection" and thus fulfill its Treaty obligation. Now, however, contrary to all our expectations, these oppressions and these insults come from the U.S. whose relations with us it is customary to designate as cordial. We are humbly of opinion that in the law of nations reciprocity is considered most important. Suppose that China should conduct herself towards American citizens in a similar manner, we ask whether the Congress of the United States would not reproach China with a violation of the Treaty And would your Excellency sit still and make no enquiries of us? Change your point of observation. At this time China cannot refrain from expressing her feelings and it is just that she should do so. The whole truth is that this class of Chinese laborers, although living beyond the outer seas, are not the less the children of China and she is unable to cast them from her breast. It is our duty, therefore, to communicate with Your Excellency and to express the hope that you will write to the Department of State to abrogate the laws requiring enumeration and forced restriction of residence. We hope for an early reply.

We further wish that you would transmit to the Department of State a request to speedily reply to the despatch of last year from H. E. Mr. Tsui, the present Minister sent during the second intercallary month, and that of the former minister Mr. Chang and thus show some concern for the important matter of the good relations of our countries.

a necessary communication &c &c

Copy

No. 7

Legation of the U. S.,
Peking July 26. 1890.

Your Highness
and Your Excellencies:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of June 16. 1890. I seize the earliest opportunity after my return to Peking to reply to the same.

You set out in detail the dates of the Treaties, and make some observations on their origin. You proceed to comment on the act of Congress of October 1888, relating to the exclusion of the Chinese laborers which act you severely criticise. You further state that I sent no reply to your communication of the 15th day of the 8th Moon of the 14th Year of Kuanghsü (Septr. 20. 1887). I beg leave to say that I acknowledged the receipt of your communication I forwarded it to my Government. I have received no advices from my government touching the three suggestions made. You further state that you have addressed through your Minister at Washington the present Secretary of State and his predecessor on this subject and are without a reply. You cite various documents and Presidential messages. You then make some comments on the alleged injustice of the act of Congress of which you complain, and you request that I take up this discuss with you and that I clearly indicate to you what article in the Treaties it is that Congress "relies on in "enacting the new law of 1888." You proceed to detail the alleged hardships to which Chinese subjects will be subjected by the operation of the new statute and you severely criticise the said statute. You request me, in conclusion, to write the Secretary of State to secure the repeal of the said law. In reply to this communication, I have to say that I have sent to the Department of State a translation of your communication. I think that under the circumstances detailed by you, it is best for me to await the instructions of my Government before taking up the discussion of the matters stated. I must, therefore, beg of you, to await a more specific reply to your communication until I shall have received the instructions of the Honorable Secretary of State.

I avail myself &c &c

(signed) Charles Denby

No. 8

Legation of the U. S.,
Peking, July 26. 1890.

Your Highness,
Your Excellencies:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the communication of Y. H. and Y. Ex. of June 17. 1890.
I seize the earliest opportunity, after my return to Peking, to reply to it. You therein state that the U. S. "have repeatedly enacted laws in violation of Treaty and all having for their object the maltreatment and injury of Chinese subjects." Under the Treaty of 1880, it is competent for the Government of China to bring the attention of the government of the U. S. or that of the Minister to China the consideration of any legislative measure which may be found to work hardships upon

the

subjects of China. As I understand this provision it is applicable to laws that have been enacted by Congress and have received the sanction of the Executive, or been passed over his veto in accordance with the Constitution and that have become valid and are in force. A complaint made in the general addressed to newly proposed laws, which are not in force would require much time for discussion and such time might be uselessly expended. You state that you have been informed by your Minister at Washington that the lower house of Congress has had under discussion recently the enacting of a vexatious law requiring the enumeration of the Chinese in the U.S. You have probably been

informed by your Minister
before this time that the
said bill failed in the Senate,
was laid on the table and will
in all human probability not
become a law. It is unnecessary
to waste any time in the discussion of this measure.
You refer also to the ordinance
lately passed by the city of San
Francisco. That city did
pass an ordinance by which
the residence of Chinese subjects
was restricted to certain designated
localities. If this ordinance be
antagonistic to the Treaties
as Y. H. and Y. E. claim, then
it will be set aside by the Courts
and held to be naught and void.
Under our system of Government
it is not competent for any State
or city to enact laws contrary
to the provisions of Existing
Treaties. I have not learnt
that the Chinese Consul or
the

the Chinese residents of San Francisco are much alarmed at the passage of the ordinance in question. Until the courts shall have decided that the said ordinance is legal and binding and some action that is prejudicial to the Chinese has been had thereunder it would seem to be unnecessary to discuss its provisions. I have sent to the Secretary of State a translation of your communication and I am sure that it will receive the attention that its importance warrants.

I avail myself &c

(signed) Chas Denby.

Mr. Denby from the Yamên.

June 16. 1890.

Your Excellency:

Research reveals the fact that all the Treaties entered into between China and the U. S., beginning with that of the 24th Taokuang—1844 Western style—then that of the 8th Hsien Feng 1858—, that of the 7th Tung Chih—1868—and that of the 6th Kuang Hsü—1880—four in all, originated on the part of the U. S. Further the proposed Treaty, the draft whereof was jointly discussed by us in the year Kuang Hsü (1888), was also put forward by the Department of State under the last administration, the original idea not coming from China. Notwithstanding this, H. E. the former President,

President set this Treaty aside and without premonition put in operation a new statute absolutely prohibiting the coming of Chinese laborers into the U. S., a statute widel at variance with the Chinese-American Treaty of the 7th Tung Chih (1868), and a violation of the Treaty of the 6th Kuang Hsü, wherein China authorize the restriction by the U. S. of the immigration of Chinese laborers. The V article of the Treaty entered into betwee China and the U. S. in the 7th year of Tung Chih (1868) speaks of the mutual advantage of the free migration and emigration of their citizens and subjects, respectively, from the one country to the othe for the purposes of curiosity, of trade, or as permanent residents." The VI Art. further says "x x x Chinese subjects visiting or residing in the U. S. shall enjoy the same privileges, immunities, and exemptions in respect to travel or residence as may there be enjoyed by the citizens or subjects of the most" favored nation". Again the Treaty of the 6th Kuang Hsüe (1880), between China and the U. S. says that whenever the coming of Chinese laborers to the U. S. or their residence therein, affects or threatens to effect the interests of that country, or to endanger the good order of any locality within the territory thereof, the Government of China agrees that the Government of the U. S. may regulate, limit or suspend such coming or residence but may not absolutely prohibit it. The limitation

or limitation or suspension sha
be reasonable. Under these circumstances the ratification by H.E. the former President, on the 26th day of the 8th moon last year, Western style the 1st of October, of the statute enacted by Congress prohibiting immigration of Chinese laborers is beyond belief. Further this Yamên had previously, viz. on the 15th day of the 8th moon of that year (Sept 19) sent a despatch to your Excellency submitting for your consideration three additional clauses to the new Treaty. To this, however, Your Excellency has never replied. The Chinese Minister to the U.S. also submitted these three clauses in a despatch to the Department of State. He too receiv not a word in reply.

The new Treaty, however,

was rejected and a new statute was enacted in place of it. This method of dealing does not seem to us to agree with the spirit which animates the Treaties of our two Countries, and fails to accord with the several decades of friendship between us. Since the enacting of this new law Chinese going to and from the U. S. have all met with interference. H. E. Mr. Chang, former minister to the U. S., first on the 25th day of the 12th moon of the 14th Kuang Hsü (Jany 26. 1889) later on the 26th of the 1st moon, 15th Kuang Hsü (Febry 22. 1889) wrote to the former Secretary of State on this subject. In reply to these despatches, he received an answer from the Honorable Secretary in which he merely intimated that as the President was about to go out of office he would certainly not ratify any legislation enacted in violation of Treaty. He did not reply to any of the other important matters submitted to him.

After Mr. Blaine had entered on his duties as Secretary of State, the former Minister, Mr. Chang, on the 10th day of the 6th Moon, 15th Kuang Hsü (July 7. 1889) wrote a despatch making urgent inquiries for information and demanding that the law enacted by Congress the preceding year, prohibiting Chinese laborers from entering the U. S., be repealed. These communications were exceedingly explicit in their

Statement of the case. In reply, however, the Department merely stated that haste would be made in a careful consideration of the subject. As to the manner in which this consideration has been conducted no information has as yet been given. This Yamên observes that the Chinese Minister, in his three despatches above referred to, has, in the main, substantiated his position by quotation from the successive Treaties between the U.S. and China. Now by reference to the Foreign Relations, of the U.S, 1881, p.p. 173, 185 and 198; and to the Statutes of the U.S. March 1843, 5th Chapter p. 624; and to the Foreign Relations of the U.S., 1870, p. 332; and to the

Congressional Record 1888, 19th Chapter, p p. 8451, 8452, 8453; and to the message of President Hayes, March 1, 1879, to the Forty fifth Congress, vetoing a bill; and to the message to Congress of President Arthur, April 4th 1882, by reference to these various documents kept on record by the U.S. Government, referring to statutes and matters with which Y. E. is well acquainted, it may be easily be ascertained why the Department of State persistently refused to give definite answers. Sincerely interested as Y. E. is in the relation of our countries you probably are aware that the law now in operation, contrary to Treaty stipulations, interferes with

Chinese subjects in their efforts to gain a livelihood, as well as violates the several Treaties themselves. Last year at the opening of Congress, H. E. the President in his Message to that body/, stated that the failure to ratify and exchange the new Treaty negotiated between China and the U. S. and the legislation of the last session of Congress consequent thereto, had left some questions open, to the deliberation of which it was now his duty to request Congress to approach with justice and equity etc. etc. This Yamen has not heard from Y. E. whether or not during these months, any such deliberations have been entered into by the Congress of your country.

His Excellency, Mr. Tsui, our present minister, has frequently written to the Department, on the subject but receives no replies. We request, finally that Y. E. will clearly indica to us what art. of the Trea it is that your honorable Congress relied on in enacting the new law of last year.

Should statutes be enacted without adherence to the Treaties then the Chinese residents in the U.S. must in time to come suffer varied and repeated hardships. This result, we fear, cannot be avoided. The Chinese have gone to America because repeated Treaties have authorized them to go and come at their pleasure and to enjoy there the advantages of citizens of the most favored nation. For this reason the residents on the coasts of China have gone to the U. S. in large numbers to gain their subsistance. There they have accumulated considerable property. Now that suddenly their going to and fro is prohibitted to whose charge shall be given their homes and property in America? The new law enacted by Congress is totally at variance with the Treaties and we consider it a violation of the spirit which prompted your country in its repeated requests to China to execute Treaties with it. It forms an entirely new episode in the relations of the two countries and though there was a disagreement with France in 1798, the instance is one which is seldom met with in the history of the U. S.

with other countries.

Y. E. is thoroughly conversant with the Treaties between China and the U. S.: we, therefore, request you at once, to write to the Department of State to secure the repeal of the laws in violation thereof. We hope also to receive an answer in this important matter.

A necessary communication

Mr. Cridler
✓ To R. S. Williams, Utica, NY, 24 Sept 90
✓ [illegible] 2 Oct

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No. 1124
Legation of the United States
Peking, July 26. 1890.

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Call on the owners, as suggested - A.A.A.
SEP 23 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject. ✓ See letter from R. S. Williams Sept 27. 1890

Great floods at Peking.

Synopsis

The Legation premises much damages. Request made that owners make repairs.

To R S Williams
nov 30.87

No. 1124.

Legation of the United States,
Peking July 26. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have to report to you that it has been raining at Peking for three weeks. The most serious floods ever known have devastated this Province. The Peiho River is in many places thirty and even forty miles wide. Very many houses in Peking and in the country around have fallen down many of these casualties carrying death with them. A number of bodies have been recovered from ruins and the destitution resulting will undoubtedly be great. A Royal Decree has been issued for an investigation of the loss of life and property with a view to relieve it as far as possible. This Legation has been a victim to these winds and floods and all the houses, both in this compound and outside, foreign and native, leak. The Walls enclosing the Legation have fallen on two sides, and the large front one bulges badly threatening to come down at any moment. The (Chunam) walks are in great holes. The paper on several of the walls is absolutely ruined, and the Chancellery ceiling has come down. It is still raining and greater damages are anticipated.

Jm

In this state of affairs, I take the liberty of suggesting to you that the attention of the owners of this property be called to these facts, and that it be suggested to them that the $600 allowed for ordinary repairs will not suffice to make these premises habitable, and that in view of the extraordinary emergency they should instruct their agent here to make the repairs at their own expense. The amount allowed for repairs is not more than is necessary to meet ever recurring necessities. The houses are old and were badly constructed. The floors continually wear out and sink, the doors have to be planed off from time to time, none

of

To R.S. Williams — 24 Sept 83

of them being in decent order, the fastenings are wretched, the grates all have to be renewed, the sashes refitted, and no end of paint is necessary. I have, as I think, judiciously expended the annual allowance. I put on the parlor and dining room, good paper procured in Boston, after first lathing the walls and preparing them with cotton cloth. These rooms have stood the damp so far.

It seems just that the owners should do something to protect the property.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Mr Cridler

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
SEP 23 1890

No 1125

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 26. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File. aaa
SEP 23 1890

Subject

Chenanfu case taken up again.

Synopsis
Minister enquires condition of affairs at Chenanfu. On hearing will proceed as instructed by the Department.

No. 1125

Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 26. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have communicated to the Presbyterian Mission at Chenanfu the substance of your despatch, No. 512 of April 9. 1890 in a letter of which a copy is, herewith, enclosed. As soon as I learn from the superintendent of the Mission what the present condition of things is, and what are his wishes, I will again bring the subject to the attention of the Foreign Office.

I

I would be very much gratified if I could secure for the Mission the original lot for which they contracted, or another suitable lot in exchange therefor.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosure.
Communication to the Mission at Chenanfu.

Copy.

Misc. No. 19
Legation of the U. S.,
Peking, July 25. 1890.
Revd. Gilbert Reid
Chinanfu
Sir:

Upon my return to Peking, after a long absence, I find a despatch from the Department of State of date April 12., which contains this language "Popular prejudice at Chinanfu appears to render it impracticable for Mr. Reed to pursue further his claim upon his contract for the original suburban lot; but the claim that another house lot in another part of the suburbs should be procured in lieu for the original lot ought not to be lightly foregone if there seems to be any chance of its being successfully maintained without friction or unpleasant complications. Your own suggestion, however, that the missionaries surrender the deed of the original lot, recove the purchase money, and undertake to secure another such lot as a movement entirely new and independent of the original contract is deemed preferable as being in all probability the least open to objection by the local authorities, and provided, of course, the missionaries can be induced to accept that solution of the difficulty before any attempt is made to obtain an exchange at the hands of the Yamên; and provided further that assurance can be obtained before the surrender of the old lot that no impediment will be thrown in the way of the acquisition of a new one of equivalent value." I have heard rumors touching the condition of things at Chinanfu, but have nothing definite. You will see that the Department instructions are contingent upon the mission's acceptance of the plan proposed. Should the mission decline to accept the new lot and still insist on the possession of the first lot then I am directed "to bring the views of the mission and yours (mine) on this subject into harmony in order that you (I) may proceed to a just termination of the existing differences between the Mission and the authorities. Before taking any action here, I desire to know the mission's views as to the course to be adopted, and to receive such information as to the present condition of things as may facilitate a favorable solution. Backed up, as I now am, by my Government I shall not hesitate to present to the Yamên, in the strongest manner, the claims of the Mission to a just settlement of the troubles pending.

(Signed) Charles Denby

Mr. Cridler

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File. aaa
SEP 23 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No. 1125

Legation of the United States,
Peking July 26. 1890

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
SEP 23 1890

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The McCaslin Case

Synopsis
Translation of No. 517 sent to the Foreign Office. Minister will have an oral interview as soon as possible.

No. 1125
Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 26. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that in the matter of Louis McCaslin I have sent to the Yamên the communication of which a copy is herewith enclosed. I have also sent to the Yamên a translation of your Despatch No. 517 of April 18. 1890. The matter is so lucidly and completely presented by this despatch and by No. 510 of March 24. 1890. that I am unable to add any thing substantial to them. I will, however, seek the earliest moment to have an oral interview with the Yamên and will then carry out your instructions contained in the last clause of your Despatch No. 517.

At present, owing to the great rains, of which you have been advised by my Despatch No. 1124 of the 25th instant, the streets of Peking are not passable. It is necessary also for me to go to the Hills for a few days, if I can get there, which is doubtful, to see my family that I have not seen for two months, and which has just returned to China after an absence of two years.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Y. H. and Y. Es:

I have the honor to inform Y. H. and Y. Es. that I have received from my Government a despatch relating to the McCaslin case at Ningpo. I was directed to deliver to Y. H. and Y. Es. a translation of the said despatch which I now have the honor to do.

"I have to acknowledge the receipt of your No. 1049 of February 9th last, re. &c." (quoting Department's No. 517 entirely through.)

In this connection I have to refer Y. H. and Y. Es. to my previous communications touching the McCaslin case. The subject has been therein so fully presente that I am unable to add anything substantial to the arguments in favor of setting asid the judgement of the Taotai and granting a rehearing of th case. The matter, however, is so clearly and strongly presented by the honorable Secretary of State that I deem it unnecess to add any comments. I will have the honor to call in person upon Y. H. and Y. Es. and present this and other questions for your consideratio orally as soon as the streets of Peking are passable.

BUREAU OF STATISTICS.
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No 1128
Legation of the United States,
Peking July 26. 1890.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Referred to Bureau of Statistics
Ack. as Mr. Scanlan.. may advise
SEP 23 1890 aa

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

The appointment of an expectant Prefect to reside at Pakhoi and to settle all questions relating to Foreign trade has been made.

No. 1126
Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 26. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that more than fifteen months ago, the Tsung-li Yamên promised to take into consideration the circumstances at Pakhoi and to come to a decision with regard to a proposal of the Foreign Representatives that a Chinese Official with greater powers than hitherto should be stationed at that port. Nothing was done; however, until lately when the Dean again brought the question to the consideration of the Yamên. Today he received a communication, of which a translation is, herewith, enclosed, wherein it is stated that Chuhsien, an expectant Prefect, has been ordered to take up his permanent residence at Pakhoi, and to hear and determine all question relating to Foreign trade which may arise at that port.

1/128

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Peking July 26. 1890.

To H.E.
Mr. von Brandt.

In reply to a letter which Y. E. addressed to us in May last and in which you pointed out that the appointment of a higher Chinese official at Pakhoi, even if he were not a Taotai, had become an absolute necessity. We have the honor to inform you that we had at that time requested the Governor General of the two Kwangs to bring about in conjunction with the Hoppo and in consideration of the importance of the local circumstances, a satisfactory solution of the question. The Governor General now informs us

that Chu hsien
an expectant prefect had
already received orders to
proceed to Pakhoi and to
take up his permanent
residence there. The Questions
arising in loco between
the Chinese and Foreign
officials will have to be
settled as formally by the
local officials (probably
those at Lienchow are meant)
to whom just and equitable proceedings have been
enjoined; the questions
arising at the said port
from Foreign trade shall,
however, be arranged in an
impartial manner by the
beforementioned prefect, in
order that they may be settle
in a quick manner.
The Governor General has
already informed Mr. Consul
Budler officially (of what

has been done.) As the question is one referring to Foreign commerce and International relations, we have the honor to bring the above to your knowledge.

We avail ourselves &c

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 28 1890
RECEIVED.

D' AU.
AUG28 1890

Separate.

Legation of the United States
Peking July 28th, 1890.

Mr. F. D. Cheshire
to the
Secretary of State

Subject.

Transmitting Account for
Loss by Exchange for Quarter
Ending June 30th, 1890.

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 8th, 1890

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed a statement of my account for loss by Exchange for quarter ending June 30th, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant
F. D. Cheshire.

Enclosure 1.
Statement as above.

Mr Tayler.

Mr Kiechhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 28 1890
RECEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
AUG 28 1890

Separate

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 28th 1890.

Mr. F. D. Cheshire
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Transmitting statement of salary account for quarter ending June 30th 1890.

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 28th, 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir: —

I have the honor to enclose a statement of my salary account for the quarter ending June 30th, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
F. D. Cheshire.

Enclosure 1.
Statement as above.

BUREAU OF ACCOUN
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
TO BUREAU OF ACCOUNTS,
for examination.
Ack. by number and file, if reported correct.
SEP 23 1890 A.A.A.

No 1129.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 28th, 1890

Mr. Charles Denby
to The
Secretary of State

Subject
Recent trips to Canton and other ports.

Synopsis
Transmitting account for expenses incurred.

T. M.

Pay out of the appn for Emergencies + By direction of Mr. Adee

No 1129.

Legation of the United States.
Peking July 28th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine.
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose herewith my account for expenses incurred during my recent trip to Canton and other ports, amounting to $921.60, against which I have drawn my draft on you in the usual manner. The account is duly supported by vouchers.

I may state that owing to the recent terrible floods that have prevailed in this section of China during the past three weeks, our journey from Tientsin to this capitol occupied eight days, while under ordinary circumstances it could have been made in two and a half days. This delay necessitated an extra expenditure which could not be avoided.

I was absent from Peking seventy seven days and travelled more than forty three hundred miles.

The Interpreter, Mr. Cheshire, his servant, I and my servant made up the party, and up and down the Peiho river we necessarily had a cook.

Under the circumstances I trust that my account will not be deemed unreasonable and my draft will be duly honored upon presentation.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Mr. Crider

2d ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File. aah
SEP 23 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No. 1130
Legation of the United States,
Peking July 28. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

The Census of Shanghai
of June 9th. 1890.

No. 1130.
Legation of the United States,
July 28. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, the official report of a census taken at Shanghai, June 24. 1890. This census shews that since 1885, the British have increased 121, Portuguese 107, Americans 49, Germans 28, French 48, Danish 18, Swedish 1, Dutch 5, Norwegians 14, Swiss 5, Turkish 14, Russians 2, and Indians 31. There has been a decrease of Japanese 209, Austrians 6, Italians 9, Greeks 4, Belgians 1, Brazilians 2 and Malays 61. The Chinese in the settlement number 168,=129, being an increase of 42,464.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Enclosure
Clipping from N.C. News.

CENSUS OF THE FOREIGN POPULATION OF SHANGHAI ON 24TH JUNE, 1890.

(Exclusive of those living on the French Concession.)

Nationality.	Settlement South of Soochow Creek.					Settlement North of Soochow Creek.					Outside Roads.					Pootung.					Opium Hulks, etc.					Grand Total.					Against Grand Total for			
	Adults.		Children.		Total	Adults.		Children.		Total	Adults.		Children.		Total	Adult		Children.		Total.	Adult		Children.		Total.	Adults.		Children.*		Total				
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	1890.	1885.	1880.	1876.	1870.
British.	398	167	83	111	759	241	130	67	67	505	102	72	25	65	264	15	7	4	4	30	13	1	...	2	16	769	377	179	249	1574	1453	1057	892	894
Portuguese	16	15	6	12	49	187	121	101	97	506	2	2	...	2	6	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	208	138	107	111	564	457	285	168	104
Japanese	52	25	2	5	84	123	128	20	26	297	1	...	...	...	1	2	1	1	..	4	...	...	...	...	...	178	154	23	31	386	595	168	45	7
American	47	46	16	17	126	63	50	25	29	167	9	12	4	2	27	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	122	108	45	48	323	274	230	181	255
German	90	22	19	12	143	46	16	6	3	71	15	6	4	4	29	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	152	44	29	19	244	216	159	129	138
Spanish	4	2	1	2	9	89	47	35	46	217	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	96	49	36	48	229	232	76	103	46
French	33	13	..	3	49	23	15	4	2	44	4	7	2	4	17	3	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	63	36	6	9	114	66	41	22	16
Danish	7	6	11	3	27	14	7	7	3	31	1	1	1	3	6	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	5	27	14	19	9	69	51	32	35	9
Austrian	10	4	2	3	19	4	6	1	4	15	1	1	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	16	11	3	8	38	44	31	7	7
Swedish	2	...	...	...	2	10	3	1	..	14	3	2	4	3	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	5	5	3	28	27	12	11	8
Dutch	5	3	..	2	10	5	1	1	2	9	1	2	2	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	6	3	6	26	21	5	5	5
Norwegian	6	1	3	1	11	4	3	1	1	9	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	12	5	4	2	23	9	10	4	3
Italian	8	...	1	...	9	2	7	...	...	9	2	2	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	9	1	...	22	31	9	3	5
Swiss	12	3	3	2	20	1	...	...	..	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	3	3	2	22	17	13	10	7
Turkish	7	4	4	1	16	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	4	4	1	18	4	...	...	...
Russian	1	...	...	...	1	3	2	..	...	5	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	...	...	7	5	3	4	3
Belgian	2	...	...	..	2	1	...	2	...	3	1	..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	2	...	6	7	1	3	1
Greek	1	...	...	...	1	2	...	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	5	9	4	2	3
Brazilian	...	...	...	...	...	..	2	...	...	2	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	4	...	...	155
Indian	40	3	3	1	47	29	2	2	...	33	9	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78	5	5	1	89	58	4	...	
Malay	...	...	...	...	...	13	7	3	5	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	7	3	5	28	89	56	47	
Siamese	2	...	...	..	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	
Arabian	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	
Persian	1	...	...	...	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	
Chilian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	
Corean	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	
Totals ...	744	314	154	175	1387	863	547	278	285	1973	153	108	42	86	389	20	9	5	4	38	31	1	...	2	34	1811	979	479	552	3821	3673	2197	1673	1666
Eurasians (included in above)	3	7	22	18	50	11	8	22	11	52	5	7	7	21	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	22	51	50	142	...	...	...	...
Against 1885	751	324	135	142	1352	867	580	235	252	1934	122	96	56	56	330	11	7	6	4	28	24	4	1	...	29	1775	1011	433	454	3673	...	...	...	...
,, 1880	591	197	184		972	472	267	263		1002	57	54	73		164	19	4	4		27	32	...	...		32	1171	502	524		2197	...	...	..	...
,, 1876	733	166	143		1042	310	126	140		576	–	...	...		...	24	3	4		31	19	1	4		24	1086	296	291		1673	...	...	...	...
,, 1870	718	109	81		908	448	92	69		609	35	9	8		52	34	5	5		45	45	3	4		52	1281	218	167		1666	...	...	..	...

* Children, implies under 15 years of age.

Shipping in Harbour, 1890	849	Against 1885	495
Navy, 1890	160	,, ,,	398
	1009		893

CENSUS OF THE NATIVE POPULATION TAKEN IN JUNE AND JULY 1890, 1885, 1880, 1876 AND 1870.

(Exclusive of those living on the French Concession)

Period.	In Native Houses Settlement South of the Soochow Creek.				In Native Houses Settlement North of Soochow Creek.				In Foreign Hongs and Houses occupied by Foreigners.				In Villages and Huts inside the Limits of the Settlements (not Numbered or Assessed.)				In Shipping and Boats.	Grand Total.			
	Males.	Females.	Children.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Children.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Children.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Children.	Totals.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Children.	Totals.
1890	52,368	24,108	22,243	98,719	20,680	10,388	13,367	44,435	5,571	916	626	7,113	5,761	3,290	2,469	11,520	6,342*	88,963	39,316	39,850	168,129
1885	44,755	20,519	13,461	78,735	15,631	7,335	7,605	30,571	4,827	748	289	5,864	2 513	1,077	718	4,308	6,187†	72,156	30,289	23,220	125,665
1880	40,073	15,663	12,916	68,652	13,349	5,541	6,433	25,323	4 708	332	178	5,218	...	...	. .	2,541	6,078	63,430	22,936	21,446	107,812
1876	37,468	14,104	9,673	61,245	10,868	4,081	3,175	18,124	5,267	345	75	5,687	...	...	...	3,057	7,549	60,003	20,230	15,429	95,662
1870	25,085	11,991	8,834	45,910	7,138	2,876	2,915	12,929	4,423	400	85	4,908	...	...	..	4,154	7,146	46,447	15,999	12,601	75,047

	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.
* 1890	4,583	614	1,145	6,342
† 1885	4,430	610	1,147	6,187

RECENSEMENT DE LA POPULATION SUR LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE DU 24 JUIN, 1890.

Recensement de la Population Etrangère.

Habitants.				Nationalités.																					
Masculins.		Féminins.																							
au-dessus de 15 ans.	au-dessous de 15 ans.	au-dessus de 15 ans.	au-dessous de 15 ans.	Française.	Anglaise.	Americainne.	Allemande.	Autrichienne	Greque.	Suisse.	Italienne.	Hollandaise.	Suedoise.	Portugaise.	Parsi.	Belge.	Russe.	Hongroise.	Danoise.	Norvégienne.	Australienne.	Manillaire.	Japonaise.	Inconnues.	Total
173	27	123	121	149	87	27	29	8	12	2	6	1	2	20	9	8	16	2	7	1	1	15	17	25	444

Recensement de la Population Indigène au 24 Juin, 1890.

Habitants.				Chinois au Service des Européens.	Total
Masculins.		Féminins.			
Au-dessus de 15 ans	Au-dessous de 15 ans.	Au-dessus de 15 ans	Au-dessous de 15 ans.		
18,562	4,286	5,716	5,462	696	34,722

Grand Total... 35,166

Mr. Ruckhoef

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No 1130.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 28th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby

to the

Secretary of State

Subject

Enclosing Statement of
Salary Account for
Quarter Ending July 30th, 1890.

No 1130

Legation of the United States.
Peking - July 28th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine.
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir: —

I have the honor to
hand you enclosed a statement
130. of my account for salary account
for the quarter ending the 30th of
June 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Statement as above.

Mr. Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No 1131.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 28th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
Enclosing statement of
Rent Account for quarter
ending 30th of June 1890.

No 1131

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 28th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed a statement of the Rent Account of this Legation for the quarter ending June 30th, 1890. 131.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Statement as above.

Mr. Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No 1132.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 29th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

— Subject —

Enclosing statement of account for loss by Exchange for Quarter Ending June 30th 1890.

No 1132.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 29th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand
32. you enclosed a statement of
my account for loss by Exchange
for the Quarter ending June
30th, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Statement as above.

Mr Randolph

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No 1133.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 29th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject.
Enclosing statement
of Passports issued during
Quarter ending June 30th, 1890.

No. 1133

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 29th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine.
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor
33. to Enclose a statement of Passports issued at this Legation during the quarter ending June 30th, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Statement as above.

Mr Cridler &

Mr Faison -

} Cridler

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Copied Sept. 24. 90
to Sec Navy Sept 24,
SEP 23 1890

No 1134-

Legation of the United States.

Peking July 30th 1890.

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Mr. Seymour thanked
Sept 30/90.

Subject

Visit to Canton.

Synopsis

Details of trip. Report of interview with Viceroy and settlement of pending claims.

No. 1134.

Legation of the United States.
Peking July 30th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

By my despatch No. 1115 of May 22nd I gave you an account of my interview with His Excellency Li Hung Chang at Tientsin. I have now to report the subsequent incidents of my trip.

I left Tientsin the 15th May. The Pei-Ho river was silted up to such an extent that steamers could not reach the city wharf, but were compelled to stop about fifteen miles below. The Commissioner of Customs kindly furnished a steam launch to take me to the Chinese steamer "Sin Sheng" on which I embarked for Chefoo. The next day at 6. p.m. we anchored at Chefoo and I, immediately went aboard the "Swatara" which had been ordered to take me to Shanghai.

The "Swatara" left Chefoo the morning of May 17th and arrived at Shanghai the 20th. Some delay occurred there by reason of the non-arrival of the "Monocacy" which had been ordered to take me to Canton. She necessarily after her arrival remained at Shanghai some days to procure stores. During my stay in Shanghai I was entertained at dinner by the Taotai, at which a large company was present.

I sailed for Canton on the "Monocacy" the 27th. We went direct to Canton, at which port we arrived June 1st. The next day I notified the Viceroy Li Hung-chang of my arrival and of my desire to pay my respects to him at his earliest convenience. In response I was notified that the Viceroy would receive me on the 5th June. He sent also an invitation to dinner at 10 A.M. for four officers of the "Monocacy", Messrs Seymour, Cheshire and myself.

I replied to the Viceroy that I desired to see him on business and that after the dinner I would ask him to grant me an audience.

The invitation sent me was more than a foot long and about eight inches broad. One column contains all manner of good wishes for the recipient printed in gold characters, another contains the invitation to dinner and a translation in English is appended. A card is also enclosed.

My party got into chairs and proceeded through the narrow streets of Canton making headway with some difficulty, owing to the crowds of porters and people and the many chairs encountered. It took us about an hour to reach the Viceroy's yamên. The yamên is approached by an open court on either side of which a company of soldiers was ranged who came to a "present" as we passed. Just as we entered a salute of three guns was fired from the short bombs that are used for this purpose. On leaving our chairs we were received by about twenty high officials who conducted us into an inner court, where the Viceroy in person received us.

Li Han-Chang is an older brother of Li Hung-chang. He is seventy-three years old. He was formerly Provincial Treasurer at Canton and more lately Viceroy at Hankow. He resembles somewhat his distinguished brother but the lower part of his face is fuller and betokens good humor and geniality.

We were escorted to an antichamber where tea was served and in a few minutes we were invited to the dining room. This room was enclosed on three sides only — the fourth was open. The dinner was served in courses and was mostly in foreign style. There were, however, some distinctive Chinese dishes such as birds' nests soup and sharks' fins. The menus were in Chinese and English. The weather was intensely hot and the viceroy asked permission to lay aside his heavy official robe.

The conversation was animated. We talked about the business of Canton, the phonograph, the death of the Marquis Tsêng, our respective ages, the number of our children, Li Hung-chang, Peking and many other topics. The viceroy was very genial and pressed upon us the numerous dishes and the foreign and Chinese wines which flowed abundantly.

After passing two hours at table I requested the Viceroy to proceed with me to a private room where I could present to him the business which took me to Canton. Mr. Seymour and Mr. Cheshire accompanied us.

I judge it best to produce as nearly as possible the substance of this interview, as it may throw some light on Chinese methods.

I said to the Viceroy that I had come from Peking to settle with him certain claims that had been pending for several years — that I had discussed all these claims with Chang Chih-tung on two occasions — that Chang had not seriously disputed the justice of the claims, and had offered to settle them if the missionaries would agree not to go into the interior. I stated that I had no authority to make such an agreement — that I could not control the movements of the missionaries, and that such an agreement being applicable to only one nationality it would be highly impolitic for China to insist on it, even if I had any authority to make such an agreement — that in no event would I consent to any such arrangement, but that the Fultons who had suffered at Kuei-ping had voluntarily stated that they would not return thither.

The Viceroy frankly admitted that it would be impolitic to make such an agreement. He said he had given orders to the local authorities to report to him on the Fulton case. They had reported that Dr Fulton had said the he lost nothing and now he presented a big bill. Mr. Seymour then explained that Dr Fulton had never said any such thing, that what he had said was that his losses were as nothing since he had saved his life.

The Viceroy said that if he paid these claims he would be subjected to abuse from the Governor of the province and the people of Kuei-ping. I said that all that an official had to do was to do right — if he did right he could disregard any attack that might be made on him. He said he could do nothing until the local authorities reported. I said that I could not submit to such delay, that all the cases were four years old and some were eight — that all the proof was on file in his office and in the Consulate —

that the local officials had reported years ago — that I would prefer that he should say point blank that he would pay nothing rather than be put off by further pretexts.

He said that he was a new Viceroy here and could not act in these matters until he had thoroughly examined them. I said that the United States do not act in that way towards China — that when the Chinese Legation presented a bill of claims amounting to nearly $280.000 in gold my government accepted the schedule so presented to it and actually overpaid the claims so that the Chinese Minister returned about $600.00. — that, when the Minister of the United States and a Consul presented a bill of damages it must be assumed to be correct, that the bills were itemized and sworn to and every precaution had been taken to have them just and correct. He said that if he paid these bills he would be violently attacked. I said he certainly would not be attacked by the Cantonese because they knew nothing about the matter. I said that I had come to Canton to arrange these claims and I could not leave until they were paid, that I had been somewhat instrumental in securing for

China the payment of heavy damages and it seemed humiliating that I could not secure the payment of such moderate sums as we demanded. He said he would be glad to do anything that would benefit me. I said, "Well give me a check for $6000.00". He then offered to pay half if I would pay half. I said I would gladly pay half but that would be a surrender of principle, that I wanted it understood that when injuries were done to Americans in the Two Kuangs compensation had to be made. I then stated that to settle the whole business I would accept $5000.00. We went all over the matter again and again. He finally offered to pay $4000.00. This offer was declined at first but after we had returned to the other room, upon consultation with Mr. Seymour, it was accepted.

I then made an appeal to the Viceroy to facilitate the procurement of land by Dr. Happer for his new college. I said that the Doctor wanted sixty or seventy mow for his Classical and Literary College, that such an institution would greatly benefit Canton and that I hoped he would be allowed to purchase all the land necessary. He said that he did not think that so much land could be had in the city, but that could be procured near the city, and he would give the matter early attention.

I said that Chang Chih-tung had promised me in 1886 that there never should be another riot in Canton and that he had kept his word, and that I would like to be able to report to my government that he had given the same guarantee. He said that certainly he would do all he could to prevent riots, that such events were as disastrous to China as to foreigners.

In the despatch of Mr. Seymour, No 196 of June 9th 1890, he has given an accurate statement of the amount of the claims and the amount collected and paid, of which I append a copy hereto.

I also desire to express my profound thanks to Mr. Seymour for the ability, energy and industry displayed by him during the negotiation with the Viceroy as well as for his uniform courtesy and kindness extended to me during my stay at Canton.

It was agreed that the Viceroy should return my call on board the "Monocacy" the next day at 12 M. He came at that hour in a great barge towed by a steam launch and accompanied by a Chinese gunboat. The "Monocacy was lying about fifty yards from the bund upon which several companies of Chinese troops were drawn up in line. The Viceroy was received with a salute of nineteen guns. He was escorted to the cabin where an elegant repast was served.

After the meal was over he was escorted over the ship. On the deck of the "Monocacy" he handed me a large envelope containing a communication, of which a translation is herewith 2/1134 enclosed, together with a check for $4000.00.

When the Viceroy left the ship he was again saluted by the "Monocacy" to which the

Chinese man-of-war replied with an equal number of guns.

The next day the most of the American missionaries assembled at the Consulate. An account of this meeting has been given by Mr. Seymour in the despatch cited. It suffices to say here that the settlement arrived at was unanimously approved by all the claimants, and that resolutions were adopted wherein yourself, Mr. Seymour and I were most cordially thanked for the interest that had been manifested in behalf of the missionaries and the missions. Speeches were made by all the gentlemen and were of a highly patriotic and gratifying character. I am disposed to join in this gratulation as far as it is directed towards yourself. For eight years every effort to collect these claims has failed. By your direction, in the hot-bed of antagonism to foreigners a signal success has been achieved. A precedent has been set which will redound to the advantage of all nationalities. To your authorization of my visit to Canton these gratifying results must be traced.

Just before my arrival at Canton the Viceroy had made an order fixing an additional likin on opium and kerosene.

The opium question was

immediately taken up by the British authorities. Correspondence ensued between Peking and the Viceroy which resulted in an order rescinding the addional likin levy. I did not deem it prudent to take up the question of the propriety of the additional likin on kerosene until the opium question had been settled, but I instructed Mr. Seymour to demand, as soon as was feasible, the rescision of the additional likin levy on kerosene. I had the pleasure to receive from him at Shanghai a telegram wherein he informed me that the new tax on kerosene had been abandoned.

I confirm my telegram from

Canton to you as follows:

"Blaine, Washington,

All claims settled,

Canton June 8th 1890, Denby."

We left Canton June 8th at about 1 p.m. and arrived at Hongkong at 7 A.M. the next day. It was necessary for the "Monocacy" to remain there several days in order to take in coal and procure supplies. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. O. N. Simons, the new United States Consul, and his family. He visited the Governor with me and showed me other civilities. From what I saw of him I have no doubt that he will faithfully and industriously discharge the duties of his office.

July 13th we left Hongkong. As Amoy and Foochow were on my way I deemed it prudent to call at those ports. We reached Amoy the 15th June. The new Consul had not arrived and the Consulate was still in charge of Mr. Frank Cass, Vice-Consul.

I discussed with Mr. Cass several public questions then pending; the land hospital question; the Formosan claims of Messrs Russell & Co; and the propriety of enacting a new regulation touching exemption from levy of goods of poor debtors. These subjects have come before you in other forms and I need not dwell upon them here, except to say that I am inclined to make a regulation securing reasonable exemption to Americans in China, as the same is usually secured in the United States.

If the newly appointed Consul has not already sailed for his post, it is desirable that he should proceed thither at the earliest moment. There are always objections made by members of firms doing business in China to submitting their invoices to the inspection of rivals in business. As Mr. Cass is the head of Russell & Co this objection has been made at Amoy. But he is so universally respected that there has not been much insistance on it.

I may remark that the firm of Russell & Co had an arrangement with the Governor of Formosa whereby each party was to bear half the expense of an expert tea farmer who was to establish a model tea farm in Formosa. The arrangement was carried out and promised beneficial results. But just before my arrival at Amoy the Governor had requested Mr. Cass to withdraw his agent because of threats that he would be maltreated by the Formosans. Mr. Cass had accordingly directed his agent, Mr Pinckes, to come to Amoy. He will now visit Foochow, Shanghai and Peking and endeavor to interest the Imperial Government in the project of establishing a model tea farm on the mainland. Some such step is deemed absolutely necessary in order to save the tea trade for China. The deterioration of Chinese teas has become so marked and the Ceylon and India teas have so generally supplanted the products of China, that it is feared that the prosperity of Amoy has been destroyed. There were many complaints of this character made to me by merchants and others and the outlook is very gloomy. I shall assist in all possible modes to secure a beneficial result of these efforts to improve the tea trade.

We left Amoy at 11 a.m. the 18th June and arrived at Foochow the next day at 9.30 a.m.

I called on the Viceroy Pién Pao-ti the 20th, and was entertained by him at dinner. He is a relation of Li Hung-chang. I said to him that I had heard with regret that he had prohibited the sale of kerosene at Foochow. He replied that it was not true that he had done so, he had made no such order, he had simply enjoined on the poorer people great care in the use of kerosene as fires sometimes resulted from carelessness in it's use. He said he used kerosene in his yamên and liked it very much. I told him that a safety lamp had been invented which was extinguished by a fall or by upsetting. He manifested a desire to know where such lamps could be procured. I referred him to Messrs Russell & Co.

The Viceroy was to have returned my call at the Consulate the next day, but the excessive rains had so swollen the river Min that "the Bridge of a Thousand Ages" could not be crossed and the return visit was abandoned.

The Consul Mr. John F. Campbell was polite to me.

June 22nd I left Foochow for Chinkiang. Consul Jones had sent an urgent request to me to visit him, stating that the feeling against foreigners was not the best and that my visit might produce good results. We arrived at Chinkiang the night of the 25th June.

During my stay I was very cordially entertained by the Taotai and by the Consul. Consul Jones is on exceedingly good terms with the Chinese officials and with all the foreign community. His office was in excellent condition.

We left Chinkiang the 28th and reached Shanghai the 29th. I was inclined to leave immediately for Peking, but a strong pressure was made on me not to leave until after the 4th July, and especially not to take the "Monocacy" away before the Fourth.

The anniversary of our independence was enthusiastically celebrated at Shanghai. There was a gathering of all the Americans and many citizens of other nationalities at the Consulate at 12 M., when short speeches were made by the Consul-General and myself, and the Declaration of Independence was read by Mr. Purdon. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Leonard received all comers at a handsome public garden on the Bubbling Well Road.

The new Consul-General, Mr. J. A. Leonard, is rapidly winning the esteem and respect of all persons with whom he comes in contact. He is a prudent, conscientious and intelligent gentleman and I have no doubt that he will give complete satisfaction to the Department.

July 5th, the "Monocacy" left Shanghai for Newchwang. I had not intended to go thither but the Admiral seemed anxious that the ship should visit this most northerly of the Chinese ports and, as the trip involved only a day or two more time for me I concluded to go in her.

We arrived at Newchwang July 8th. This town is situate about thirteen miles from the mouth of the river Liao. The foreign settlement is small. The only regular Consul is Mr. T. Watters, who represents Great Britain. He also acts for France and Austria-Hungary and Denmark. The Vice-Consul of the United States, Mr. J.J. F. Bandinel, also acts for Sweden and Norway, the Netherlands, Germany and Japan.

Mr. Henry C. Bush and Mr. Bandinel are the only prominent business men of the place.

Newchwang is frozen up four months in the year. While navigation is open the trade of the place is very good, amounting to ten millions of taels. The exports are chiefly beans and bean-cake but quantities of hides, and silk and medicines are exported, especially ginseng.

At least 300,000 carts go to Newchwang during a year.

I learned in Tientsin that the viceroy Li had approved the building of a railroad from Tongshan to Newchwang and thence in the direction of

Kirin. If this road is built Newchwang will become an important place.

Manchuria has a great future if modern improvements are introduced therein. It is incumbent on China, if she desires to protect her northern possessions, to connect the Sungari with China proper. It is now strongly rumored that China will build a line of railway from Tongshan to Moukden via Shan Hai Kuan, Port Arthur and Newchwang. But it is reported that the officials of Moukden are opposed to building any railroads.

There are no American missionaries at Newchwang but there are some of other nationalities. The people are said to be favorably inclined to the Christian religion.

Many emigrants from Shantung now go to Manchuria. It is a long and painful journey and if a railroad were built Manchuria would be rapidly peopled from the overflown provinces of China.

Mr. Bandinel seems to be an intelligent and well qualified official.

We left Newchwang at about 10 A.M. of July 11th and arrived off Taku bar at 2½ p.m. the 12th. I had travelled about 4000 miles in the two ships the "Swatara" and the "Monocacy". My stay on both of them was as pleasant as possible. Nothing was neglected by officers or crew which could conduce to my personal comfort or to the success of my diplomatic work.

The assistance rendered by a man-of-war to a diplomatic officer is valuable. On this trip I was enabled to return the salutes of the Foochow forts, of divers English men-of-war at Hongkong and to properly salute visiting officials. These courtesies impress the Chinese favorably.

I enclose, herewith, a copy of my letter of thanks to Rear 3/1134

Admiral Belknap.

I had to wait at the lightship until a tug came and took me off, about seven o'clock. We landed at Taku where we passed the night.

The next morning at 9 a.m. the same tug took me to Tongku which is the terminus of the Tientsin railroad. This place is situated on the left bank of the Pei-ho river at a distance of about five miles from the mouth. The railroad to Tientsin is about twenty eight and one half miles long; the time is one and a quarter hours. The road is perfectly level and is well built and the train, if it were desirable, might make sixty miles an hour. The fare is for foreigners fifty cents and for Chinese twenty-five cents Mexicans. A half mile from Tongku the road from Tongshan unites with the Tientsin line. This road goes to the Kaiping mines. It is sixty four and one half miles long. It often brings down two hundred and fifty tons of coal a day. The steamers use the slack of which there are great piles at Tongku. The coal is bituminous. When put in the furnace it cakes and the cakes being broken up it makes fine fuel. The train stops opposite Tientsin. The river is crossed with sampans the railroad bridge having been destroyed on account of the opposition of the boatmen.

I stayed in Tientsin only long enough to engage boats for the trip up the Peiho. We started up the river the 16th July. There had been very heavy rains above and the whole country was flooded. We also encountered severe rains and our progress was slow. It took us seven days to reach Tungchow and the greater portion of another day to reach Peking, where we arrived July 23rd

The trip up the river, which was in many places miles wide, was slow. The men could not tow the boat owing to high water and the winds were fitful and uncertain. I have never experienced greater discomfort, and can only pray that the eighty miles between Tientsin and Tungchow will soon be covered by the projected railroad. The trip which cost me seven days will then be made in two hours.

In conclusion I desire to return thanks to the first and second Secretaries for their prudence, diligence and attention to business during my absence, and to the Interpreter, Mr. F. D. Cheshire for his able and intelligent cooperation with me during my trip.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. Statement of amount of claims paid, Canton July 7th 1890.
2. Li Han-chang, Viceroy of the Two Kuangs, to Mr. Denby, Canton June 6th 1890, Mis No 9/1890
3. Mr. Denby to Rear Admiral Belknap, July 24th 1890, Naval No 4/1890.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1134.

U. S. Consulate, Canton.
June 7th 1890.

{Memorandum of American Claims and settlement approved this day by claimants at the U. S. Consulate}

— viz. —

Amount of Claims	Claimants	Amount payable at 70d per Mex.
$100.00	American Baptist (South) Mission. Loss at Ng. Chow in 1882.	$70.00
63.00	American Baptist (South) Mission, Loss at Kêng Yuan in 1884,	$44.10
100.00	American Presbyterian Mission Loss at Chik Hom, in 1884,	70.00
67.00	American Presbyterian Mission Loss at Shek Lung in 1884,	46.90
100.00	American Presbyterian Mission Loss at Yeung Kong in 1886,	70.00
1.596.00	Miss Mary H. Fulton M.D. Loss at Kuai Ping in 1886,	1117.20
2.301.80	Rev. A. A. Fulton, Loss at Kuai Ping in 1886,	1611.

American

Amount of Claims	Claimants	Amount payable at 70c per Mex.
$\$1.382^{70}$	American Presbyterian Mission, Loss at Kuai Ping in 1886,	$\$967.^{89}$
$\$5.710^{50}$ Total Claims		$3.997.^{35}$
	Pd. telegram to bring Dr Thomas	2.65
		4.000.00 Total indemnity

(signed) Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

Enclosure 2 in No 1134.

Translation

No 9.

H.E. Li Han-chang, Viceroy of the Two Kuang Provinces, to Mr. Denby, U.S. Minister.

Canton, June 6th, 1890.

The Viceroy has the honor to inform Your Excellency that it appears from the records that, in the 9th moon of the 8th year of Kuang Hsü (1882), an American hospital in Wu Chou Fu, Kuanghsi, was destroyed by the populace owing to their suspicions as to the system of medical treatment carried on there. In the 7th Moon of the 10th year of Kuang Hsü (1884) at the time of the Franco-Chinese war; when China was making defensive measures, the country people unknowingly destroyed two chapels — one at Ch'ing Yuan Hsien and the other at K'ai P'ing Hsien.

In the 4th moon of the 12th year of Kuang Hsü (1886) the Rev. A. A. Fulton, on account of his acquiring additional property at Kuei Lin Hsien, in the province of Kuangsi, was stoned, insulted and burned out at the hands of the ignorant people.

In the 11th moon of the 12th year of Kuang Hsü (1886) Dr Thomson acquired a piece of property at Yang Chiang, for the purpose of erecting a hospital. As the country people were opposed to having the hospital there, Dr Thompson was admonished to delay work, but this he failed to do and the result was that the property was destroyed by fire.

In regard to the above cases — five in all — reports of a general character have only been received from the various local authorities concerned, but as to the real cause of the trouble, the value of the wearing apparel and other articles, as well as of the buildings destroyed, no detailed reports have come to hand from the authorities although instructions have been issued to them by the previous Viceroys to do so, after making an impartial and thorough examination.

The Viceroy had the honor, a few days ago, to receive from Mr. Consul Seymour wherein he urged action in the premises, and instructions were again issued pressing the officials concerned, but up to the present time no reports have been received.

It appears that the above cases have been pending for a number of years during the incumbency of various officials. As to the amount of articles lost and as to whether or not the cases in question should be settled as a matter of compassion, properly speaking no action should be taken in the matter of adjustment until reports have been received from the various local authorities. It would be at variance with the principles of reason to at once take compassionate steps. But, in view of the long standing friendly relations which have existed between China and the United States and the fact of Your Excellency being so considerate as to come from afar and of your bearing and of the kindly sentiments expressed at the interview, which have been greatly appreciated by the Viceroy, he deems it proper that he himself should make an arrangement to meet the case under consideration.

Irrespective, therefore, of the reports that may hereafter be presented by the various local authorities, the Viceroy has, in accordance with the verbal agreement made with Your Excellency, provided the sum of $4000.^{00}, which he has the honor to, herewith, transmit to Your Excellency in full settlement of the above mentioned five cases.

The Viceroy expresses the hope that Your Excellency will acknowledge officially the settlement of the cases mentioned.

In making this communication the Viceroy avails himself of this opportunity to express to Your Excellency the hope that you may enjoy the blessings of the season.

A necessary communication addressed to

His Excellency
Charles Denby.
etc., etc., etc.,

Enclosure
Bank order for $4000.⁰⁰

Enclosure 3 in No. 1134.

Mr. Denby to Rear Admiral Belknap.

Naval No. 4/1890 July 24th 1890.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I embarked on board the "Swatara", Commander P. H. Cooper, at Chefoo, the evening of the 16th May, with my Chinese Secretary, Mr. F. D. Cheshire. The morning of the 17th we left Chefoo and arrived at Shanghai May 20th. Before we left Chefoo a salute of fifteen guns was fired in my honor. Commander Cooper and all the officers and crew of the "Swatara" showed me all possible kindness and courtesy while I was their guest.

The 28th May, in accordance with the arrangements made by you, I embarked on board the "Monocacy", Commander M. L. Johnson. As you have already been informed by Commander Johnson of the movements of the ship and the incidents of the cruise, I will only say we visited Canton, Hongkong, Amoy, Foochow, Chinkiang, Shanghai and Newchwang. I left the ship July 13th at the light-ship off Taku bar, and went to Taku on a tug.

During this cruise of about four thousand miles and six weeks of time, I found uniformly and always aboard the "Monocacy" the greatest possible kindness, consideration and courtesy. The Commander and all the officers and crew will always be remembered by me with peculiar gratitude for their invariable attention to my associate and myself socially, and their cordial and intelligent cooperation with me in the furtherance of the public duties with which I was charged.

This cruise was the fourth that I have made on the vessels of the United States attached to the Asiatic squadron. It serves to enhance and accentuate the appreciation that I had already of the distinguished qualities that adorn the members of the United States Navy. It serves also to prove again the advantages that may accrue to our country from a cordial cooperation in Asia between the Naval and the Diplomatic Services. The presence of a man-of-war at the ports gave me increased dignity and influence. The courtesies of the Navy, freely extended in the way of salutes and receptions to the Chinese officials served to promote mutual consideration and friendly feeling. On the part of the Chinese these courtesies were all reciprocated and such an exercise of international politeness will not fail, I think, to enhance their respect for our flag and nation.

I thank you sincerely for your kindness in placing the "Swatara" and "Monocacy" at my disposal, and I beg of you to transmit to the Commanders, Officers and crews of both ships my hearty thanks for all their kindness, courtesy and consideration shown me while I was their guest.

I have the honor etc,
(sgd) Charles Denby.

by no. of file

Mr. Cridler

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
SEP 23 1890

No. 1135

Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 31. 1890

Mr Denby
to the
Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

Subject

Acknowledges despatches

No. 1135

Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 31. 1890

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 537 of June 10, enclosing the Commission of Mr. Samuel L. Gracey, as U. S. Consul at Foochow. The same has my attention. I have also received your No. 538 of June 12, acknowledging my despatches.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Ackd. by subject Sept 23 1890 Cr.

Mr Cridler

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
SEP 23 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No 1136

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 2nd 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

The Island of Hainan.

Synopsis.

Description of the island; products; population; missionary labors.

No 1136

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 2nd, 1890.

To the Honorable,
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The island of Hainan, lying south of 20° north latitude, is the southernmost territorial possession of the Chinese Empire. The nearest mainland is the province of Kuangtung, sixteen miles distant, of which Hainan constitutes a part organized as the prefecture of Kiungchou.

The island is one hundred

and fifty miles long from north to south and one hundred broad from east to west, and, excepting the mountainous districts of the south and east, its surface is generally level. The main body of the population are Chinese from the vicinity of Foochow, though a district in the interior of the island is inhabited by aborigines whose language and traditions seem to point to the Maylayan peninsula as their origin. All efforts of the Imperial Government, dating back to the Mongol Dynasty, have been unavailing in bringing these savage tribes into permanent subjection. Like the aborigines of Formosa they refuse to assimilate with the Chinese; their hostility, however, does not culminate in actual warfare.

The total population of Hainan is nearly one and one half millions, of which the Chinese compose far the larger part. These, though originally, some seven generations back, from Fukien, speak a dialect greatly modified by lapse of time and contact with people of the other provinces and the native tribes. It is said that sixteen distinct dialects are spoken here among which are prominent the Cantonese and the Mandarin.

The chief products of Hainan

are betel nuts, eggs, leather, sugar and hogs. In 1887 there were 85,000 hogs shipped from the island, most of which went to Hongkong. The total exports from Kiungchow, under foreign flags, were valued at 1.014.848 taels, and included such items as 7,000,000 eggs, 114.000 piculs of sugar, 48,000 taels worth of betel nuts etc, etc. The imports in foreign ships at this port in 1889 amounted to 1.028.417 taels, of which opium (338.000 taels), cotton yarn (212.000 taels), shirtings (39.000 taels), rice (142.705 taels) and American kerosene (37.300 taels) are the most important items. Opium, the use of which is universal and excessive, is the chief article of import. The amount consumed far exceeds that reported in the Customs Returns as large quantities are imported by junks and some is smuggled through.

Hainan is an island of great beauty of scenery. It is remarkable for it's luxuriant vegetation and particularly for the great variety of palms — cocoa-nut palm, betel-nut palm, caryota, fan-palm and date-palm — which give it the name of "Isle of Palms". The soil is fertile and the climate more salubrious than the adjacent mainland.

By reason of it's small

area and the generally favorable disposition of the people, this island has, within the last few years, attracted attention as a field for protestant missionary labors. Roman Catholic Missions had existed here several centuries ago, but were subsequently abandoned because of persecution, though their success seems to have been unusual, and only within the last fifty years have any attempts been made towards their reestablishment. The first protestant mission was established here in 1881, the native Hakka population being chosen as the initial field. A chapel was subsequently built at Kiungchou and hospitals at Kiungchou and Nodoa. Some opposition met with from the Chinese officials, in the purchase of land, has been eventually overcome and the field is regarded by the missionaries familiar with it as of great promise. The American Presbyterian Mission is the only protestant mission that has thus far regularly begun the work of evangelization here.

It would be a remarkable incident if this island, once known only as the resort of pirates and smugglers, should realize the missionaries sanguine hopes and, receiving the gift of Christianity and civilization, become "a power in developing the neighboring lands".

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

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Mr Partridge

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
SEP 30 1890

No 1137

Legation of the United States.

Peking August 3rd 1890.

Vau
Voer

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Exemption of property under
execution etc.

Synopsis

The Minister proposes to put in
force in the Consular Courts an
exemption of $800.00 in value.

No 1137

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 8th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that, under Section 4086 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, 2nd Ed. 1878, I have prepared and forwarded to the Consuls, for their assent or dissent, an Additional Regulation for the Consular Courts of the United States in China, relating to exemption from execution or seizure of the debtor's property.

I have fixed the amount at $800.00, to be taken in money or property at option of the exemption claimant.

Under Sec. 4118 this regulation can be put in force by me whether the Consuls approve or disapprove, but I must take their opinions. Until the paper has reached each Consul and been approved or disapproved by him I cannot put it in force.

I have, therefore, concluded to present the matter to you for your approval. If for any reason you disapprove of an exemption being adopted in China, of course, the matter will be dropped.

The making of this additional regulation occurred to me at Amoy, where I found a poor debtor who is being pursued by his creditors. The man has nothing but his salary as Insurance Port Inspector, which is paid by some Insurance Companies, and if his salary can be garnisheed and paid to these creditors he will probably quit work.

But, apart from this special case, exemption is allowed under the statutes of the United States in some cases, and in all the States, I believe, and it is a just and humane principle which all civilized countries have adopted.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Mr Cutler

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
SEP 23 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

3D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. by Number and File.
SEP 23 1890 aab

No 1138

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 3rd 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

The Shanghai Cotton Mill.

No. 1138

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 3rd 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report to you that while I was at Shanghai, I visited the new cotton mill, which is now operated by a Chinese corporation with Mr. Danforth, an American, as manager. After many years of tribulation Mr. Danforth has finally succeeded in putting into operation this mill. Machinery was brought out six years ago. It lay mostly unused for several years. On behalf of this company I had an interview with His Excellency Li Hung-chang in 1886. We then agreed that this company might start under Chinese control exclusively with the stock all owned by Chinese and none by foreigners.

Mr. Danforth had a large claim for back salary and his only hope was in putting the concern in operation.

I was shown through the entire mill by Mr. Danforth and the resident director. The machinery was procured mostly in England but a large part was made in the United States. It is of the most modern and finest quality.

The cotton, which is Chinese growth, is first ginned, then cleaned, then made into laps, then reduced to a thin roll, then made into threads, then reduced to thinner threads, then woven, the threads being pressed together with a thread across them and made into cloth. In this process the only thing done by hand is putting between the threads screens to separate the threads before weaving. Chinese women do this intricate manipulation with great expertness.

There are four foreigners in charge of the various departments but the other employees are all Chinese. The company has a fine property embracing about forty acres, lying on the Hwangpu, just outside of the corporation lines. They are now manufacturing fine cotton cloth which finds a ready market. If the capital of the concern could be increased it would do an immense business.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Acked by Mr Adee

Mr Cridler

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
SEP 23 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No 1139

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 4th 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

The San Francisco ordinance segregating the Chinese.

Synopsis

Some observations on certain clauses of the treaties, showing the futility of claiming that because certain acts are done by the American Minister here, like acts my be done in the United States by the Chinese Minister.

Nº 1139

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 4th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch Nº 539, of the 19th of June last, covering the correspondence between yourself and the Chinese Minister, relating to the ordinance of the City of San Francisco, which undertakes to confine the Chinese subjects in that city to a particular locality.

On receipt of my despatch No 1123 of the 25th ult., you will see that the same matter was brought to my attention by the Foreign Office, and that I gave substantially the same opinion as to the want of validity of the said ordinance that was expressed by yourself and the Attorney-General.

I shall not undertake to add anything to the conclusive argument made by you, but some comments on certain observations made by the Chinese Minister, in his communication to you of June 7th, may have some bearing on the issue.

His contention is that here the American Minister freely invokes the "active interposition" of the Imperial Government when the local authorities or evil disposed persons threaten injury to Americans, and that the Imperial Government does not in such cases leave the threatened persons to carry on their contest with the local authorities alone and unsupported by the imperial power.

It is true that it has grown into a custom to present all questions to the Foreign Office. But, under Art. IV of the Tientsin Treaty of June 18th 1858, the American Minister may "correspond on terms of perfect "equality and confidence" with several high provincial authorities therein designated, "and all "such communications shall be "most carefully respected. The "Privy Council and the Governors "General, as the case may be, shall "in all cases consider and "acknowledge such communications "promptly and respectfully".

I availed myself of this article lately at Canton and at other ports in China.

Article XI of the Treaty of 1858 provides that on the requisition of the Consul military forces shall be immediately furnished by the local authorities to disperse rioters and apprehend and bring to punishment the guilty.

No corresponding clauses are to be found bearing on Chinese action in the United States. The reason for the want of such provisions in the treaties is to be found in the fact, that, the government of the United States is one of law. The government of China is, on the contrary, autocratic and despotic. Every official, from the highest to the lowest, holds his life, liberty, property and position at the sole and arbitrary will of the Emperor. Necessarily, therefore, the Imperial Government must be held responsible for the acts or negligences of the local authorities, who are the servants of the Emperor. The treaties were, presumably, made with knowledge of the habits, customs, laws constitutions and governments of the two countries.

It will not do, therefore, to say that, because application in cases of emergency is made for assistance to the Imperial Government here, it follows that such application, in the case of the Chinese in America, should in the first instance be made to the Government of the United States. The exercise of such arbitrary authority as is freely invoked here of the Imperial Government, finds no warrant in our system of government.

The two salient points of Art. III of the Treaty of 1880, which is relied on by the Chinese Minister, are, first, that the Government of the United States will exert all it's power to devise measures for the protection of the Chinese and, second, that it will secure to them the same rights, priveleges and immunities as may be enjoyed by citizens or subjects of the most favored nation.

The first clause can only be construed to mean that in places under national jurisdiction, if necessary, proper measures will be taken to protect the Chinese against rioters. This has been done in some of the territories. The second clause can only mean that Federal legislation shall not be enacted having for it's object to deprive the Chinese of rights which are enjoyed by persons of other nationalities.

In our country the courts are open to all persons. The Chinese have the choice of State or National tribunals. In both, I think, justice is fairly and impartially administered to all suitors.

In China, as against the local officials, there is no court procedure available. No magistrate in China would dare to bring to his yamên a superior official — even if he had the right to do so. The Viceroys and Governors in China are practically supreme. The only control they ever submit to is that of the Imperial Government. To summon a Viceroy to abide the decision of any court would be an unheard of procedure, and would, no doubt, result in the execution of the magistrate who issued such process. Even if legal remedies were provided for they would not be available to the foreigner. Ignorance of the language, the want of any well defined civil procedure, the incongruity of methods, the fact - which every day bears witness to - that the judiciary is not independent but is controlled by despotic power, and the fundamental principle of the government that the Emperor is supreme in all matters, civil, criminal and religious, would render any appeal to the law, as against the local authorities themselves, absolutely impossible.

There being, therefore,

no parallelism, no analogy, no points of resemblance between the practice and procedures of the two governments, it seems idle to draw an inference from acts done in China, that like acts may, or ought to be, done in the United States. Such argument does not rest, as our action here does, on treaty, or precedent, or reason.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Mr Cridler

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
SEP 23 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No. 1140
Legation of the United States
Peking Aug. 4 1890.

25 Sep
" "

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Copy to Secy of Navy for his information
So ack. and cordially approve.
SEP 23 1890
AAA

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The Hydrography of Chinese ports not open to Foreigners.

Synopsis
The Minister unites with his Colleagues in claiming that the right of Foreigners to sound and survey the closed ports is a Treaty right

No. 1140 ~~11[illegible]~~

Legation of the United States
Peking, Augt. 4, 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have sent to the Foreign Office the communication of which
27] a copy is enclosed.

The question arose in the case of a French man-of-war - which had engaged in surveying and sounding one of the closed Ports whether it was allowable for Foreign Officers to make such surveys. The Foreign Ministers, after a discussion unanimously held that this was a Treaty right.

The question was presented to the Yamên during my absence ~~and~~ I had only to approve the conduct of my Colleagues. While it is to be supposed that the great maritime countries of Europe might prohibit such surveys, still the case is or ought to be different with China. She has absolutely neglected hydrographic work, perhaps for the good reason that she had no scientific officers. She has stood by and seen the Foreigner sound and make charts for all her coasts. There seems to be no good reason why she should now object to a completion of the work.

It happens that we are the only Nation that has a treaty which by just intendment may be held to include this subject.

The 9th article of the Treaty of June 18. 1858, reads as follows: "Whenever national vessels of the United States of America in cruising along the coast and among the ports opened for trade for the protection of the commerce of their country, or for the advancement of science, shall arrive at or near any of the ports of China, the commanders of said ships and the superior local authorities of government shall, if it be necessary, hold intercourse on terms of equality and courtesy in token of the friendly relations of their respective nations; and the said vessels shall enjoy all suitable facilities on the part of the Chinese Government in procuring provisions or other supplies and making necessary repairs." The last clause of this Article provides that our national vessels may "pursue pirates and if captured deliver them over for trial and punishment." There have been several examples of such work being done by American ships, notably that of the Wyoming in 1862 or 1863. Unless the ports shall have been sounded and surveyed such pursuit in many cases would be impracticable. It seems to me very clear that in the interest of humanity and of commerce this right should be insisted on.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

.11. Copy.

August 4. 1890.

Your Highness
& Your Excellencies:

I have the honor to inform Y. H. and Y. Es. that since my return to Peking I have learnt that my Colleagues have addressed Y. H. and Y. Es: on the subject of permitting officers on board Men-o'war to make surveys of the various ports of China.

I take this opportunity of saying that I cordially approve of the course of my Colleagues. I have made four voyages on the coast of China and have just returned from one on which I travelled over four thousand miles. Every few feet of this coast has been sounded and accurate charts have been prepared by the officers attached to the ships of various nationalities. The value of such services to humanity and to trade and commerce cannot be overestimated. These charts together with the splendid system of light houses and bouys organised by the Inspector General of the Imperial Maritime Customs have made the very dangerous coast of China easy and safe for navigation. But it will always happen that in stress of weather or on account of accidents ships will be compelled to take refuge in ports. The Treaties provide that such refuge may be had. How can a ship enter a port safely which has never been surveyed or charted. The open sea in such event might be less dangerous than an unknown port. China has hitherto failed to do this necessary work herself.

she should not, therefore, object to its being done by other nations. I call Y. H.' and Y. E.' attention finally to the 9th Art. of the Treaty of June 18. 1858, made between the United States and China, wherein it is distinctly provided that the vessels of the U. S. may visit any of the ports of China. The last clause provides that the national vessels of the U. S. may pursue and capture pirates. There have been several cases of the pursuit and capture of pirates by American Ships. How can this work, which is thus distinctly specified, be done unless the various ports are properly sounded and surveyed in advance? In the interest of humanity, as well as of commerce, Chinese and Foreign, I hope that Y. H.

and Y. Ex. will see your way clear to the approval of the right of Foreign Scientific officers to continue and complete the Hydrography of all the ports of China.

Mr Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

Mr. F. D. Cheshire
to the
Secretary of State

Subject. –

Duplicate Statement of account for Loss by Exchange for the Quarter Ending June 30th, 1890.

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of my account for loss by Exchange for the quarter ending the 30th of June 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
F.D. Cheshire.
Interpreter of Legation

Enclosure 1.

Duplicate statement as above.

Mr. Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

Separate:

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

Mr. F. D. Cheshire
to the
Secretary of State

— Subject. —

Duplicate statement of salary account for quarter ending June 30th, 1890.

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose herewith, duplicate statement of my salary account for the quarter ending the 30th of June 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
F. D. Cheshire.
Interpreter of Legation

Enclosure 1.
Duplicate statement as above.

Mr Kieckhoefer.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No 1141.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

Mr Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject.

Duplicate Statement of Expenses of recent trip to Canton, etc:

T. M.

No. 1141

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State.
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of expenses incurred on my recent trip to Canton and other ports.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Statement as above.

Mr Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No 1142.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Duplicate statement of
salary account for quarter
ending June 30th, 1890.

No. 1142.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

42. I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of my salary account for the quarter ending the 30th of June 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Duplicate statement as above.

Mr Kirchhoffer.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No. 1143.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Duplicate Statement of
Rent Account for quarter
ending June 30th, 1890.

No 1143.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine.
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement
43. of the Rent Account of this Legation for the quarter ending June 30th, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Duplicate statement as above.

Mr Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No. 1144.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

— Subject —

Duplicate Statement of Account
for Loss by Exchange for
Quarter Ending June 30th, 1890.

No 1144

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir: —

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of my account for loss by Exchange for the Quarter ending June 30th, 1890. 44.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Duplicate statement as above.

Mr Randolph

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

No. 1145.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

- Subject -

Duplicate Statement of Passports issued during the quarter ending June 30th, 1890.

No 1145. 1

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 9th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to
145. hand you enclosed duplicate
statement of Passports issued
at this Legation during the
quarter ending June 30th, 1890.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Duplicate Statement as above.

Mr. Cridler

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
SEP 23 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack by subject & file
AAA
SEP 23 1890

24

No 1146

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 11. 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The Chinanfu troubles

Synopsis
The Minister encloses a copy of a late communication to the Yamên on this subject.

One enclosure.

No. 1146

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 11. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that since I sent to you my despatch No. 1125 of the 26 July relating to the Chinanfu troubles, I have received a communication from the American Mission at that place, which furnished me the information I desired. This communication was sent in advance of the receipt of the one sent to the Mission by me.

I have, accordingly, addressed to the Foreign Office a communication of which I enclose a copy. 1

It will be seen that I strongly urge a full and final settlement of these long standing troubles.

Omit

If, as the Chinese Minister asserted in his communication to you of June 7th, relating to the San Francisco Ordinance, the Imperial Government does not leave the foreigner to fight his battles unaided against the local authorities, we may reasonably hope that my appeal will be hearkened to.

I

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office

No 1890.

Enclosure in No

Mr. Denby to the Foreign Office.

No 1890.

Your Imperial Highness and
Your Excellencies:

I am constrained by my high respect for the Government of China, as by the orders of my own Government to bring to your attention again the troubles existing at Chinanfu between the American Missionaries located there and the local officials. It is known to Your Highness and Your Excellencies that the American Missionaries, several years ago, bought and paid for a small lot in Chinanfu to be used for a dispensary and other purposes connected with their charitable and philanthropic work. They did this with the firm belief that their conduct was authorized by the treaties and by the universal practice of religious toleration which exists in China, under which the Roman Catholic and Protestant Missionaries are permanently located in all or nearly all the nineteen provinces of this great Empire.

When they made the purchase of this city lot they understood that no objection to it's acquisition would be made by the local authorities or the people. The owner sold in good faith and they bought in entire innocence of doing anything contrary to the wishes either of the local authorities or the people. But dreadful results have followed this simple act. Mr. Reid, when he went to take possession of the lot was driven out by a mob and beaten and bruised and left insensible on the ground.

From that day to this, more than two years ago, no redress has been tendered to Mr. Reid, no apology has been made to him, no indemnity has been offered to him. His case has been simply ignored and passed over.

I am now informed of the horrible sequel to these events which has befallen the innocent landlord. The Mission writes to me that "the landlord, though "guilty of no crime has been "repeatedly imprisoned, beaten and "starved, and lately there was "extorted from him 250^{00} with a "peremptory order that he speedily "collect an additional 350^{00}. A "few weeks ago he was taken out "of prison in a weakened condition "and, after a day or two of further "suffering died at his home, his "death being largely due to his "sufferings in the Yamên."

This is horrible and I am stirred with wonder that such things should happen under the mild and paternal government of China. I can understand that sudden mobs will sometimes do violent acts in a country so densely populated as is China, but I cannot understand how local officials, worthy of their places, can lend themselves to such wanton cruelty and oppression.

I am aware that a valuable tract of land outside the city walls has, with the consent of the local officials passed over to the American Mission. For this kindness I am truly grateful. But the Missionaries represent that, for the proper prosecution of their work, they require a small city lot either in the city proper or in one of the suburbs. My Government has distinctly and specifically, on representation of the facts by myself and the Mission, directed me to aid and assist the

Missionaries, in all proper modes, to secure peacable possession of a lot in exchange for the lot already bought.

The American Mission is entirely willing to arrange all their difficulties amicably with the local authorities. They distinctly agree to forego all claim to the original lot and to accept at the hands of the local authorities another suitable lot in a different locality in lieu thereof. They insist, however, that this exchange of property shall be made with the full knowledge of all concerned with the distinct pledge that their possession of the new lot shall be peacable, and that, should for any reason disorders grow out of their taking possession of it, they shall be fully and entirely protected by the local authorities.

I regard it as important also,

in order to secure future protection of the Missionaries, that some notice should be taken of the wrongs and injuries done to Mr. Reid by a mob, and some compensation tendered to him. I have to ask that some punishment should be meted out to the ringleaders of the mob which assaulted him and that redress of some kind be afforded to Mr. Reid.

It would seem to me to be the easiest thing in the world for Your Highness and Your Excellencies to direct the local authorities to come to a fair and equitable agreement by which the American Mission may secure another and different small lot in Chinanfu or it's suburbs, to be used for the public purposes of the Mission.

There can be no difficulty in making a public example of the ringleaders of the riot in which

Mr. Reid was injured, and in tendering to him some redress for his personal injuries.

What he wants, and what the Mission wants, is to secure their present and future safety in Chinanfu, to re-establish their destroyed prestige, and to enable the members of their Mission to retain their self respect, so that they can hereafter, as heretofore, boldly and efficiently devote themselves to their charitable and philanthropic work.

What a grand thing it would be for Your Highness and Your Excellencies if we could settle this ancient trouble! What a fine effect it would have on all the foreigners in China and among the nations of the world, and particularly in my own country!

I most earnestly beg that Your Highness and Your Excellencies will hearken to these words and will order an immediate settlement to be made on the lines herein indicated.

Mr Kieckhoefer

No 1147.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 12th, 1890.

Mr. Charles Denby
to the
Secretary of State

— Subject —
Contingent Expense account
for Quarter Ending June 30th, 1890.

No 1147.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 12th, 1890.

To the Honorable James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed a statement of the account of Contingent Expenses of this Legation for the Quarter ending the 30th of June 1890.

47.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.
Statement as above.

Mr. Cutler,

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
SEP 23 1890

[illegible] Press [illegible] F.H.E.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1890
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Give to press.
Ack by No & file.
SEP 23 1890

No. 1148

Legation of the United States.

Peking, August 12 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State

Subject

The floods in Chihli

Synopsis

Three thousand miles flooded — many lives lost — the railroad to Tongshan partially destroyed.

No 1148 Omit.

Legation of the United States.

Peking August 12 1890.

To the Honorable

James G. Blaine,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The floods in this province, of which I gave Omit you some description in my despatch No 1124, of July 26. 1890, have been the most serious ever known. It is supposed that an area of three thousand miles and a population of several millions were affected by the floods. Many people have been drowned.

Tens of thousands are refugees from their homes, living on charity.

One result may have far-reaching consequences. Near Lutai, which is a point on the railroad from Tongku to Tongshan, the railway embankment has been destroyed by the people for several miles. It was alleged that the embankment dammed up the water and flooded the country. Forcible possession was taken of the embankment, which was cut in many places, the trains were stopped and the employees driven away.

It is supposed that the

General in command at Lutai either instigated or connived at these proceedings in which his soldiers largely took part.

A very serious feature of the case is the supineness supiness of the Viceroy Li. He has done nothing to prevent these lawless proceedings.

The Tongshan Colliery is stopped and three thousand men are thrown out of employment and the operation of the railroad is, of course, suspended.

This destruction was wanton and unnecessary for letting off the water. All these proceedings indicate an [~~a tremendous~~] anti-railroad excitement which may result in postponing indefinitely any further railroad enterprises in China.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Omit

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

ck by no & file

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
OCT 7 1890
Mr Cridler

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 6 1890
RECEIVED.

DIP U.
OC 890

No. 1149.

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 18th 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Acknowledges receipt of despatches.

No 1149.

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 18th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches No. 543, of June 27th, and No 544 of the same date.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Mr Moore
&
Mr Apler
✓ ans'd
16 Dec

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 6 1890
RECEIVED.

No 1150

Legation of the United States.

Peking August 16th 1890.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
DEC 15 1890

Mr. Denby to the

Secretary of State

Subject.

The ceremony of marriage between Americans in China.

Synopsis

The Minister is of the opinion that as a matter of wise precaution the ceremony should be performed in the presence of a Consul.

No. 1150

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 16th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I deem it proper to report to you my recent action on a question of the mode of solemnizing marriages in China between Americans there resident.

In the case in hand the contracting parties were Dr B. C. Atterbury and Miss M. J. Lowrie, both citizens of the State of New York and now residents of

Peking engaged in mission work.

It was supposed by Dr Atterbury that my presence was all that was necessary to give "legality", as he said, to the proposed marriage. Under Art. 387 of the Consular Regulations, I deemed it my duty to say to him that my presence at the ceremony would have no legal effect. I showed to him that, under Art. 389 Consular Regulations, the Minister is not authorized to perform the ceremony, or to witness it officially, and under Art. 390 he could give no certificate whatever. I pointed out that, under Art. 386 Consular

Regulations, a Consul might perform the ceremony, or it might be performed in his presence and he could then issue the certificate that the Consular Regulations provide for.

As a result of this friendly and non-official interview the wedding was postponed and the parties journeyed to Tientsin to be there married by or before the Consul.

My action provoked some comment. Several cases have occurred in China wherein the parties were married by a clergyman with no government official present. Other cases were cited in which one of my predecessors attended marriages which were thus solemnized. It is on this account, and because marriage questions are of the highest importance, that I bring the matter to your consideration. It seems plain to me that, as a wise precaution and in order to avoid any possible future trouble, marriages between Americans in China should be performed in the presence of the nearest Consul.

While entertaining this view I do not pretend to say that the courts might not hold a marriage valid when the ceremony had been performed by a clergyman, or even in cases where there was no ceremony at all, if cohabitation and public recognition of the conjugal status existed. Nor do I pretend that I have any official right to dictate to parties how they shall be married. But the Minister must be careful that parties are not misled by his silence or his presence at the ceremony of marriage.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 6 1890
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. Mr. Denby will not lose sight of the matter, but endeavor in all proper ways to further the reasonable desires of Mr. Reid and his associates.
AAA
OCT 8 1890

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
OCT 8 1890 ✓

Ans'd
11 Oct

No 1151

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 20th 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
The Chinanfu troubles.

Synopsis.
Encloses translation of the last despatch from the Yamên

One enclosure.

No 1151

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 20th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith, a translation of the reply of the Foreign Office to my last communication on the subject of the Chinanfu troubles, a copy whereof was enclosed in my despatch No 1146 of the 11th Instant.

The Yamên reiterates its refusal to pay any compensation to Rev. Gilbert Reid. It says that it repeatedly directed the Shantung authorities to assist the missionaries in finding another tract of land. It sets forth in full a communication from the Governor of Shantung on the subject. The Governor says that the money paid by the missionaries was recovered and deposited with the magistrate, that the missionaries refuse to receive it, that a large tract of land was purchased by the missionaries and although the people objected they now have it in possession, that the United States Minister repeatedly represented that the missionaries were willing to accept any suitable land and did not insist on any particular lot, that the deed to the original town lot should be returned and the matter brought to an end in order that good feeling may exist. He begs in conclusion that the Minister be requested to so instruct the missionaries.

The Yamên further observes that the acquisition of this large tract of land enables the missionaries to carry on their good work, and that yourself and I will not fail to rejoice thereat, that the property should be taken as a settlement of the whole case. If the missionaries still desire to hunt for other property and claim indemnity and press the matter — although the authorities cannot accomplish their wishes — there is fear that the populace will cause trouble and that they will lose the property they now have. The Yamên hopes that the Minister will accept this view and will so instruct the missionaries. 21 denies the statements made as to the death of the landlord.

All this is simply a repetition of communications that have repeatedly been sent to me.

Under your instructions I shall not abandon the case though it seems useless to press it at present. I shall wait until, by the efforts of Mr. Reid, some favorable turn takes place at Chinanfu or some other desirable occasion arises to renew negotiations.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosure:

1. The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby No 11. August 17th 1890.

Enclosure 1 in No.

The Foreign Office to Mr. Denby.

No 11. August 17th 1890.

Your Excellency:

Upon the 8th inst., the Prince and Ministers had the honor to receive a communication from Your Excellency wherein you stated that you were ordered by your government to bring to their attention again the missionary case at Chinanfu, and you begged that the Yamên would order an immediate settlement to be made on the lines indicated by Your Excellency.

With reference to the case in question, during the 11th and 12th moons of last year (December '89 and January '90) the Yamên had the honor to receive repeated communications from Your Excellency having relation to it, to which replies were made setting forth the circumstances, all of which is a matter of record.

As to the question of paying an indemnity to the Rev. Gilbert Reid, this was clearly explained in the Yamên's previous note (Jan. 18th 90), a reference to which will enable Your Excellency to know (the Yamen's views), and there is no need to repeat them here.

In the matter of searching for and leasing (other) property, the Prince and Ministers have to say that, in view of the repeated requests made by Your Excellency, the Yamên, addressed several communications to the Shantung authorities to render assistance to the missionaries in finding a place. The Yamên has now received from the Governor of Shantung a communication couched in the following language:—

"In the case of the leasing of house property by the Rev.

Gilbert Reid from Liu Meng Kuei, a long time since instructions were issued to the Magistrate who clearly investigated the matter and brought it to a close. The money paid (by the missionaries) was recovered and deposited in the treasury of the Magistrate. Mr. Reid has been urged frequently to take back the money but up to the present time he has failed to do so. In the jurisdiction of the Li Cheng district another large piece of property was purchased by the missionaries. The gentry and people of the place, however, came forward and offered objection to the Missionaries having the place, but the Magistrate used various ways to explain and show them the right way to pursue and the property was decided in favor of the missionaries. His Excellency, the United States Minister, repeatedly stated that the missionaries were willing to accept any suitable place that may be satisfactory to the authorities and that they did not insist on any particular spot. In the matter of the tract of land which the missionaries have acquired, the gentry and people have listened to the admonitions and orders of the officials, and they will not create any further trouble. The missionaries should return the deed of the original property to the magistrate for cancellation and receive the amount they originally paid and thus bring the case to a termination. Then it may be hoped that harmony and goodfeeling may be promoted among the missionaries and populace and nothing occur that may tend to produce a discordant feeling. The Governor begs that a communication be addressed to the United States Minister requesting him to instruct the missionaries to lose no time in acting accordingly".

In the matter of the missionaries acquiring property the Prince and Ministers would observe that the authorities of Shantung have, during the past few years spared no amount of trouble and pains and they have not shown a want of diligence. The desire of the missionaries to carry on all their good work have (by the acquisition of the large tract of land) been fully accomplished in accordance with their wishes and still they have retained their reputation and honor. Your Excellency, who has from first to last, been actuated with a desire to protect the missionaries will also feel comforted and consoled, and the Honorable Secretary of State on hearing of it (the property the missionaries have acquired) will not fail to rejoice. This property can easily be taken as a settlement of the whole case.

If the missionaries still desire to hunt for other property and claim for the payment of an indemnity this will show that they are biased and prejudiced (in favor of self-interests) and if they show a persistent desire in pressing a matter that is hard to bring about, without taking into consideration the fact that the authorities of Shantung cannot possibly accomplish their wishes, there is great fear that if the populace should hear of their action it will cause them uneasiness and the very property which the missionaries now have may be taken as a pretext and further complications follow. Such an event would certainly be decidedly at variance with the views of the Yamên and of Your Excellency to give full protection to the said missionaries.

The Prince and Ministers hope that Your Excellency will clearly and minutely point out to the missionaries the right way they should pursue and to lose no time in instructing them to hand over the deeds (of the original property) to the authorities to be cancelled and to receive the money they expended. Then in future there will not be any pending question of a difficult nature.

As to the death of the landlord, who was very ill, it should not be said that his demise was the result of cruelty and maltreatment. The statement of the missionaries to that effect is one which the Prince and Ministers decidedly cannot give credence to.

Further as to the proper matters of business incumbent on the local officials to perform there the Yamên need not enquire about.

A necessary communication addressed to

His Excellency Charles Denby
" " "

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
OCT 8 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 6 1890
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Ack. Mr. Denby's supplementary statements have been read with the attention they merit -
OCT 8 1890
AAA

No. 1152

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 20th 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State

Subject
The treatment of Corean goods imported into China by foreign merchants.

Synopsis
The question has been dropped by the German Minister. Some observations on the subject.

No. 1152

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 20th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that the question presented in my despatch No. 1013, of the 9th December, to which your despatch No. 543 of June 27th last is a reply, has ceased to be of any immediate practical importance.

My despatch related to a new Customs regulation whereby goods imported from Corea into China were put on the same footing as if they came from a Chinese port. A result thereof was stated to be that Corean goods imported by a foreigner into China would be deprived of the benefit of being sent into the interior under a transit pass, and would thus be subject to the payment of likin. In fact a German firm at Tientsin was denied the right to send Corean goods into the interior under a transit pass. The matter was not then taken up, but when the German Minister returned to his post last autumn he caused inquiries to be made at Tientsin and Shanghai as to whether German commercial or shipping interests were in any way damaged by the new rule. He was informed that Corean goods were imported by German firms only on Chinese account, and that Chinese forwarders were the only sufferers by the rule. He concluded that the only case in which German interests might be disadvantageously affected — Corean produce being by the measure adopted placed on the same footing as Chinese produce — would be when in a time of dearth the importation of Corean cereals to Chinese ports was prohibited by the Chinese authorities, it being competent for the Chinese, under the German treaty, to prohibit temporarily the transportation of cereals coastwise.

As no proper case had arisen the German Minister dropped the question. For this reason, and because I had not received an answer to my No 1013, I have not again recurred to the matter.

It may perhaps be unnecessary to say anything more as no practical case is at issue, but the question merits a little more notice.

It is true as you state that the Corean treaty with the United States does not contain "any provision which could be "cited to show that the commerce "between Corea and the "United States is in any way "interfered with unless "merchandize is exported via "China either by land or sea". But that, I think, is not the question. That China might levy what duties it pleased on goods coming from Corea to China, which were imported by Chinese subjects and were intended for use in China and not for exportation to the United States, and that the

United States would have no right to complain under the treaties, may be true. But China has by her treaties and trade regulations contracted that foreign merchants may import from foreign countries goods by paying certain duties and that these foreign merchants may send these goods into the interior on procurement of a transit pass, and such goods are not liable to the payment of any likin in transit or at their destination — a tax which all other goods must pay. Now if China, by virtue of the declarations, cited by you, made when the treaty with Corea was made to the effect that Corea was subservient to China, has the right to declare that Corean goods are not foreign but native goods, the foreign merchant is deprived of his right to treat Corean goods as above stated.

I do not know what views my other Colleagues may entertain on this question, but the German Minister has no doubt that a German, or other foreigner, has as much right to forward Corean goods, belonging to him, into the interior under a transit pass as he has to forward American, Japanese, Siamese, British, Mexican or any other goods. He holds that the commercial status of Germany in Corea is exactly the same as in any other country, and that nothing in the treaties between China and the foreign powers, or in the relations between China and Corea, authorizes the former power to deprive goods or produce of Corean origin, the property of foreigners, of the right of being forwarded under a transit pass.

In the way of this conclusion stands the undefined and shadowy claim of suzerainty of China over Corea. It would be idle for me to undertake to discuss that much argued question, until some case arose in which rights guaranteed to Americans by the treaties with China were antagonized by the assertion of this claim.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

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DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
OCT 8 1890

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 6 1890
RECEIVED.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Referred to Bureau of Statistics
Ack. at Mr. Scanlan, may advise
OCT 8 1890 aag

✓

No 1153

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 21st 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

The new Chungking agreement.

Synopsis

Chungking made an open port under the agreement of which a copy is enclosed.

(Copied for Publication)

Two enclosures.

No. 1153

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 21st 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

It is known to the Department that in the year 1887 Mr. Little, a subject of Great Britain, built a small steamer for the purpose of navigating the Yangtze between Ichang and Chungking. This intention was based on the Chefoo agreement of 1876, wherein it was stipulated that "British

"merchants will not be allowed
"to reside at Chungking or
"to open establishments or
"warehouses there so long as no
"steamers have access to the
"port."

This clause is in it's terms rather indefinite — Sir Thomas Wade said that it was so made intentionally — but English merchants claimed that it was an implicit agreement that steamers might ascend to Chungking. When the steamer was nearly ready to make the attempt to go up the river the British Minister deemed it advisable to procure the assent of the Imperial Government before making the proposed voyage. Negotiations followed, but the local objections were so great to the use of steam on the river that the Yamên delayed granting the permit. It occurred to the Chinese that a way out of the difficulty would be to buy outright the steamer "Kuling," which had been specially built to ascend the gorges. But this scheme was seen to be a mere make-shift, as it would deter no other British subject from entering upon the same enterprise, and could not do away with the Chefoo Agreement. Inspector-General Hart was called in as an arbitrator.

For

We proposed that steam should be excluded but trade might be carried on in native boats. The British Foreign Office approved this compromise with the understanding that the "Kuling" should be bought and that Little should be compensated for his loss of time. Sir Robert Hart was empowered to offer to Little Taels 120,000 for the purchase of the steamer and godowns and for his compensation. This offer was accepted.

Finally a new agreement was made of which I send you enclosed a copy. 1

I enclose, also, a clipping

from the North-China Daily News

2 of August 7th, being a translation of the memorial sent to the Throne by the Foreign Office on this subject.

By the articles agreed on Chungking becomes an open port; the English may hire Chinese boats, or build and use boats of their own after the Chinese pattern; they shall be subject to the general trade regulations prevailing on the Yangtze; the boats shall be provided with passports and shall be subject to the supervision of the Customs Taotais; as soon as Chinese steamers ascend the river English steamers may go up; the Convention shall be as binding in all respects as the Chefoo Convention.

Omit all

I shall send you in a few days some description of the Province of Sz-chuan and of Chungking.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Denby

Enclosures:

1. The six articles of the Chungking Convention, copied from the Shanghai Mercury Aug. 7th 1890.
2. Memorial from the Tsungli Yamên announcing the conclusion of the Chungking Agreement, clipped from North China Daily News August 7th 1890.

Article I. – Chungking is hereby declared to be an open Treaty Port, enjoying the same priveleges, and similar in all respects to the other treaty ports in China. English merchants are permitted to trade between Ichang and Chungking in all kinds of merchandize; and they are permitted to purchase or hire Chinese boats to carry their wares and cargoes. But if the English wish to build boats of their own they are permitted to do so under certain conditions only. Those conditions are that they build boats only after the Chinese pattern, and that they employ Chinese crews exclusively.

Article II. – English merchants trading between Ichang and Chungking, and employing boats for the transportation of their merchandize, shall trade in the same articles as they carry between

Ichang and Shanghai, shall be subject to the same regulations as apply to traders between these ports, and pay duty according to the rules established for the trade of the Yangtze Ports.

Article III. - The boats shall be provided with passports, flags and cargo manifests all in due order. The merchandize to be transhipped to places above Ichang, as well as that going to traders in that port and Chungking, is to be supervised by the Customs Taotai for Chuen Tung and Chungking, the Commissioner of Customs, and the English Consul, which officials will also determine the rules that are to govern the transactions of merchants. They are also to take what measures for the revision of such trade regulations as may be found at any time insufficient or inadequate.

Article IV.– In case Chinese boats are employed by the English, the rules and regulations now in force in the Yangtze Ports shall be strictly adhered to. Such boats must pay for their licenses at Chungking and Ichang. Boats built and owned by the English, after the Chinese pattern, must also pay their tonnage dues, and register their flags and passports. Boats that fail to comply with all these requirements will not be eligible for the benefits of the Convention; but boats that have taken all the measures herein provided will be allowed to trade freely between Ichang and Chungking. Boats passports and such documents will not be transferable. All the other boats will come under the customary rules.

Article V. As soon as Chinese steamers bring merchandize to

Chungking for trading purposes, English steamers will be permitted to come also.

Article VI. – This Chungking Convention shall be considered in the same light as the Chefoo Convention, and be as binding in every respect as that treaty.

Enclosure 2 in No

THE CONCLUSION OF THE CHUNGKING AGREEMENT.

The following is the memorial from the Tsungli Yamên, announcing the conclusion of the Chungking Agreement. (Imperial Rescript dated March 14th, 1890.)

Your memorialists venture to lay before the Throne the circumstances connected with the opening of Chungking to trade, and the stoppage of the proposed communication by steamer, as set forth in the supplementary articles agreed to; together with a review of the course taken by the negotiations, all of which, they trust, will meet with the Imperial approval and sanction; and they further pray that officers may be commissioned to sign the said agreement.

On July 23rd, 1887, the Yamên received a communication from H.B.M. Minister, Sir John Walsham, to the effect that the British merchant Little had had constructed a small steamer, in which he intended to attempt to ascend to Chungking in the course of the current month. H.M. Minister accordingly requested the Yamên to issue a permit in compliance with the terms of the Chefoo Agreement, and to issue instructions to the authorities along the line of route, bidding them maintain order and afford the necessary protection.

In the Chefoo Agreement concluded in 1876, it was stipulated: "The British Government will be free to send officers to reside at Chungking, to watch the conditions of British trade in Szechuan. British merchants will not be allowed to reside at Chungking or to open establishments or warehouses there, so long as no steamers have access to the port. When steamers have succeeded in ascending the river so far, farther arrangements can be taken into consideration." The wording of this article in the Agreement is thus perfectly clear and there [illegible] no *primâ facie* grounds for disputing it or for placing obstacles in the way [illegible] its accomplishment. Your servants [illegible] in reply that the course of the Yangtze [illegible] the Szechuan province is tortuous [illegible] confined, and full of jagged rocks. Were a steamer to make the voyage, [illegible] native craft would inevitably be [illegible] into and destroyed. The boatmen of [illegible] parts are many, and troubles would easily result. It was therefore expedient to consider the question afresh and devise some satisfactory regulations before the attempt could be sanctioned. We further intimated that the Governor-General of Szechuan would be instructed to send a deputy to Ichang to confer with H.B.M. Consul on the subject of regulations for the prevention of collisions. It was later agreed, with the Consul, that steamers should be allowed to make the voyage into Szechuan only twice a month, and that if the vessel ran into and destroyed boats and cargo, it should be held liable to pay full compensation. The British Minister considered these two stipulations altogether obstructive and firmly refused to sanction them. In the meanwhile frequent telegrams were received from the Governor-General of Szechuan, to the effect that the people's minds were in such an excited state that it was imperative that any attempt on the part of the steamer to penetrate into the province should be prevented. In March last year a telegram was received stating that it was proposed to buy up the steamer and the godowns for Tls. 120,000, and to relinquish all further discussion of the project for a period of ten years; but that Little, being merely a British merchant, had no power to abrogate a clause in a treaty; he could only petition his Minister through the Consul and recommend the concluding of an agreement, as the sole way of arriving at a settlement. On consulting with the British Minister, the latter replied that the proposal to buy up the vessel and bar further discussion of the question for ten years would bind only Little himself, and would not concern other merchants. Although this expression of opinion virtually ended the matter, your servants further telegraphed to the Chinese Minister at the Court of St. James's, Liu Jui-fên, instructing him to negotiate with the British Government for a delay; but in this direction also nothing was settled. Subsequently the British Minister again came to the Yamên and informed us verbally that arrangements made in the provinces were of little practical use, and begged us to discuss the question at Peking, as a more likely means of reaching some speedy and satisfactory conclusion. On this the Inspector General Hart assumed the position of arbitrator, and the article in the Chefoo agreement providing for the despatch of steamers up the river was after discussion altered so as to read: "From Ichang to Chungking they [merchants] shall be permitted to make use of the ordinary native boats which are in the habit of making the passage, for the conveyance of merchandise and for the purposes of trade, and any question of using steamers shall be at an end." As for the position of foreign merchants at Chungking, their trade has been practically established for some time; the privileges now granted them are the using of that city as a port and the advantage of being allowed to establish hongs and godowns. We are in no wise injured by the concession, and, as steamers are not to run, we are likely to be freed from awkward complications which we never even contemplated. The result is in fact of advantage to both sides. Last winter, when the proposed change in the wording of the Agreement was started, we desired the British Minister to consult with the British Foreign Office by telegraph. A reply was later received that the proposition might be entertained, but that the steamer Little had had constructed, the *Kuling*, had been now kept waiting idle for quite two years and some compensation was undoubtedly due; this question of the disposal of the steamer should first be set at rest, and then the other proposals might be discussed. Now the Szechuan authorities had already proposed to buy up the vessel, and as this point was held to be important, your servants were of opinion that it would be a mistake to sacrifice a great principle for the sake of effecting a small saving. We accordingly desired Sir Robert Hart to make an offer by telegraph to Little to purchase the steamer and godowns for the Tls. 120,000 already mentioned, and to pay the money out of the estimates for Legations abroad, so as to bring this matter to an end. The British Minister then communicated to the Yamên a memorandum of the [illegible] Agreement for the regulation of trade at Chungking. This we forwarded to the Superintendent of Trade for the northern ports for consideration, with a view to additions, excisions or alterations, and finally returned it to the British Minister for further discussion. The points decided are in six clauses. Clause 1 provides explicitly for the hire and use of native boats or of boats built after the native pattern, to ensure that in the passage up and down there shall be no danger of collisions and such mishaps. It is provided that Chinese boatmen shall be employed, so that they may not be deprived of their means of livelihood. Last year a telegram was received from the Governor-General of Szechuan recommending that boatmen be hired through the boat hongs and that foreign boats be forbidden to clandestinely assume the character of native boats. The Governor-General from this is evidently not aware that during the thirty years the Yangtze has been open to trade, foreigners have long since constructed boats after the native pattern and traded in them on the river, and therefore we can hardly issue such a prohibition for the Szechuan section alone.

Again, in clauses 2, 3 and 4 it is set forth that the Customs shall have control of the loading and conveyance of goods by boat, the payment of duties, the carrying of flags and distinctive marks; and native traders are stringently forbidden to imitate such. Hereafter when the upper river comes to be opened to trade, the Taotai Superintendent of Customs concerned should have no difficulty in framing regulations strictly prohibiting fraudulent assumptions, evasion of duties and such breaches of law. The fifth clause provides that as soon as Chinese steamers succeed in making the voyage to Chungking and back, British steamers shall also be permitted to make the voyage. The effect of this stipulation is that so long as China does not care to send steamers into Szechuan, foreigners will have no pretext for insisting on doing so themselves.

The remaining clauses are of the kind that have always been introduced into previous treaties, and we are confident that this settlement of the question may be safely accepted. The question remains of the eventual use to be made of the *Kuling*. On this point we propose to write to the Southern Superintendent of Trade and request him to decide upon some course of action.

We now reverently forward a copy of this supplementary agreement for your Majesty's consideration. If it meets with the Imperial approval, it will be placed on record along with other treaties which have undergone revision. We also respectfully beg your Majesty to commission the Prince and Ministers to meet H.B.M. Minister, Sir John Walsham, for the purpose of signing the agreement and, after ratification, exchanging copies.

As regards the necessary arrangements for constituting Chungking an open port, the Taotai of the Ch'uan-tung Circuit resides at Chungking. As to what steps should be taken to appoint him Superintendent of Customs, and as regards the selection and despatch of a Commissioner and other arrangements, which will have to be gradually effected, it will be better to wait till the actual opening of the port, when your servants will present a further Memorial on the course to followed. Your Memorialists now beg an expression of the Imperial approval of the result of their negotiations in the matter of the stoppage of steam-traffic on the Upper Yangtsze, and request the Imperial instructions.

Rescript: Let it be done as proposed.

(Translated for the *N.-C. Daily News* from the *Hupao* of 5th August.)

Kieckhoefer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 6 1890
RECEIVED

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
OCT 8 1890
Mr Cridler

No. 1154

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 22nd 1890.

— Mr Charles Denby —
to the
— Secretary of State —

— Subject —

Transmitting Statement of Repairs Account for six months ending June 30th 1890.

No. 1154   One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 22d 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir: —

I have the honor to hand you enclosed a statement of the Repair Account of this Legation for the six months ending June 30th 1890.

54.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Denby

Enclosure 1.

Statement as above.

formal and Sep.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 4 1890
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, August 25. 1890.

W Taylor

BUREAU.
NOV 6 1890

Dispatches
read
File

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington D. C.

Sir:

In the absence of the Minister, and not wishing any additional delay in your reception of this Legation's Nos. 1037, and 1084, I take the liberty of forwarding to you, as your request, duplicates of those despatches.

The recent unprecedented floods have seriously disarranged our mail service between Peking and Tientsin, and I greatly fear some annoyance from the delays, if not losses, occasioned.

Our despatches leave here, we are told, daily.

Any irregularity in their transit must be attributable to this courrier service.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Howard Martin.

2d. ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Referred to Bureau of Statistics
Ack, as Mr. Scanlan.. may advise
OCT 16 1890 aaa

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 16 1890
RECEIVED.

No. 1155.

Legation of the United States.
Peking August 28th 1890.

Mr. Denby to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Chungking and the province of Sz-chuen.

Synopsis

Description of Sz-chuen. Agricultural products, mineral resources. Manufacture of salt, natural-gas wells. The city of Chungking made a treaty port. It's location, history trade and future prospects.

(Copied for publication)

No 1155.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, August 28th 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The province of Sz-chuen, lying in western China on the borders of Tibet, has been known for many hundred years as one of the most prosperous and peaceful portions of the Empire. It has always held a rank of some importance and was at one time the site of the capital, the Emperors of the Later Han

Dynasty having ruled at Ching-tu Fu. It's present flourishing condition, however, dates from the early part of the 17th Century. At that time, in the disorders of state which culminated in the overthrow of the Ming Dynasty, Sz-chuen was devasted and almost depopulated by the notorious robber Chang Hsien-chung. To repeople it's fertile hillsides land was allotted to immigrants from Hu-kuang and Kiang-si to whom, as an inducement to settle, great reductions in the land tax were made. This ancient concession has been conscientiously adhered to so that to this day the land tax remains almost nominal. Throughout the present dynasty its history has been uneventful. The Taiping Rebellion, which devastated thirteen provinces, inflicted little or no injury here. Continued peace, fertility of soil and freedom from taxation have enabled the inhabitants to attain to a degree of prosperity and contentment contrasting favorably with other parts of China.

Sz-chuen comprises a territory of 167.000 sq. miles, being almost as large as France, and has a population numbering between thirty-five and forty-five millions. It may be described in general terms as a plateau at the foot of the vast highlands of Tibet, exceedingly mountainous in it's topography and abounding in streams and rivers, carrying a large volume of water, and flowing with great rapidity. From the four largest of these rivers Sz-chuen, "Four Rivers", gets it's name. In geographical features it is divided into two parts, Western and Eastern Sz-chuen. The former partakes of the character of the Central Asian table-land. It is very rugged in it's conformation, sparsely populated and almost unfit for cultivation. The eastern portion, however, called by Richthofen the Red Basin from the abundance of it's red sand-stone, is the scene of the industry, wealth and prosperity which mark descriptions of Western China. The climate is of an almost tropical character, and the soil of great fertility, producing nearly all the cereals as well as silk, hemp, sugar, tobacco, opium and an unusual variety of fruits. Cotton is cultivated to some extent but not in sufficient quantities to supply the demands of the local market.

The growth of opium has in recent years assumed great importance in Eastern Sz-chuen. The poppy is grown over vast areas, forming in many districts a regular winter crop of the bean and Indian corn lands. This crop is very profitable to the farmer, not only for the drug produced from the sap but for the oil pressed from the seeds, the lye manufactured from the ashes of the stalks and the leaves which furnish food for pigs. Thirty catties of seeds will yield ten catties of superior oil for illuminating purposes or for food. Though it is, doubtless, chiefly for the opium produced that it is cultivated, it is said that the other products of the poppy would remunerate the grower. It is not difficult to raise, will mature in time to allow other crops to ripen on the same ground the same year and the opium produced is readily converted into cash, all of which tends to make it popular with the farmer. The facility with which opium, on account of it's convenient form and small bulk in comparison with it's value, can be carried over the mountainous roads of Sz-chuen, enabling the bearer to evade vexatious likin stations and to smuggle it duty free into neighboring markets, tends also to make it an exceedingly profitable product. Some idea of the inducement to this smuggling can be formed when it is remembered that the customs duty on imported opium is 110 taels per chest. A large percentage of that produced in Sz-chuen evades all taxation whatever. The area under cultivation annually increases, and the drug of Sz-chuen, with that of Manchuria, to which, however, it is inferior, constantly encroach on the market of the Indian product. It is a source of great dissatisfaction to the missionary to observe the wide extent of fertile ground given up to Indian corn and the poppy, the one to be converted into alcohol the other into opium.

The mineral resources of this province have been long known to the Chinese though, with the primitive means at their disposal, never fully developed. Bituminous coal, copper, gold and iron ore are abundant but mined in only limited quantities. Salt, which is a government monopoly, is obtained by the evaporation of the water of the brine-wells which abound in certain districts of Sz-chuen.

These brine-wells and the manufacture of salt there constitute a most interesting industry. The wells are found about 175 miles from Chungking on the bank of an affluent of the Yangtze River near the flourishing city of Tzu-liu-tsin or "Self-flowing-wells". The manufacture of salt, which has been carried on here from 1600 to 2000 years, is conducted somewhat as follows. By means of a rude iron drill holes six inches in diameter, and varying from a few score of feet to five or six thousand feet in depth, are bored in the rock. The boring sometimes lasts for forty years before brine is reached and is carried on from generation to generation. When salt water is finally found it is drawn up by bullocks in long bamboo tubes by means of a rope working over a huge drum. In the vicinity of the saltwells natural gas-wells are also found from which gas is supplied to evaporate the brine in large iron cauldrons leaving the pure salt as a deposit. The product of salt here is enormous. There are twenty-four gas-wells and about one thousand brine-wells in operation in the vicinity producing annually 200,000 tons of salt valued at 5.000.000 dollars.*

The method of boring these wells and of evaporating the brine have been repeatedly described and need not be detailed here.* The industry, however, is one of the most important and interesting in China. A recent traveller says "No one can visit this remarkable section of Sz-chuen, and see the operation of this ancient industry, without feeling more respect for the people who designed and executed an undertaking on so prodigious a scale sixteen centuries ago".

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* "Western China" by V. C. Hart, 1888.

It is rather a remarkable fact that Marco Polo, the noted Venetian traveller of the 13th Century, who mentions the oil-wells on the Caspian Sea and whose notice nothing of importance seems to have escaped, does not speak of the kerosene and natural gas wells of Sz-chuen, though such phenomena were absolutely unknown in Europe at that time. He remained probably but a short time in Sz-chuen and mentions only it's capital city and it's mighty river, which he identified with the Yangtze but which is the tributary river Min.

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* See Mr. Denby to Department of State No 587 of March 10th 1888, published in Consular Report No 93 p. 200, May 1888.

The recent convention concluded between China and Great Britain, opening Chungking to British trade*, attracted attention anew to that city and to the resources of the province of Sz-chuen. Chungking is the commercial metropolis of western China and under it's new status as a treaty port, is destined to annually increasing importance. It is situated on the Yangtze, at the mouth of the Kialing River, 725 miles above Hankow, and 1506 from Shanghai. It is beautifully located on a sandstone promontory surrounded by mountains, resembling, it is said, the city of Quebec. Notwithstanding the difficulty of passing the Yang-tze Gorges above Ichang, with junks towed by coolies against the rapid current, the trade between Chungking and the lower river ports is considerable. The Yangtze and it's tributary here are covered with thousands of junks and the wharves and river front present the animated scene of a busy mercantile center.

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* See Mr. Denby to the Department of State No. 1053 Aug. 21st 1890.

The past history of Chungking does not reach back to any great antiquity. It is said to have been built by imperial command about 230 years after Christ. It's ancient earth walls were replaced with stone in 1400 and these were destroyed at the siege which the city underwent at the beginning of this dynasty, in which most of the population were slain. Since this disastrous incident Chungking has flourished with the prosperity of Sz-chuen. It now numbers about 120.000 people and is the second city in the province, Ching-tu Fu with 1,000,000 being the first.

Chungking was the scene of the disastrous anti-foreign riots in 1886, in which the Roman Catholic, English Inland and the American Methodist Episcopal Missions suffered the destruction of their property. The loss sustained, however, was fairly compensated by the Imperial Government and these three Missions are again in the field. Since that time no hostile feelings seem to have developed themselves amongst this usually peaceable population.

It is to be hoped that trade at Chungking as a treaty port will increase so rapidly, and be found so profitable and desirable, that the restriction of steam navigation to the lower Yangtze will be soon abolished and the whole province of Sz-chuen be brought within cheap and easy reach of foreign commerce. The resources of the province, the industry and prosperity of the people are such that the foreign merchant's most sanguine estimate for the future cannot be considered extravagant.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Charles Denby

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 6 1890
RECEIVED.

DIPLO
OCT 8
Mr Gridley

No. 1156
Legation of the United States,
Peking, August 28. 1890.

Mr Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Forwarding duplicates of Nos. 1084 and 1037 as per instructions contained in Department's No. 546 of July 7th 1890.

No. 1156

Legation of the United States,
Peking, Augt. 28. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that in compliance with your despatch No. 546 of July 7, I have mailed to you copies of my despatches Nos. 1084, and 1037.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

Ack by no offic

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 6 1890
RECEIVED.

Mr Cridler
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU

No. 1157

Legation of the United States,
Peking, August 28. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Acknowledging despatches.

No. 1157

Legation of the United States,
Peking, August 28. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches as follows:

No.	545	of	July	5.	1890
"	546	"	"	7.	"
"	547	"	"	8	"

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 6 1890
RECEIVED.

W Cridler
DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
OCT 8 1890

Ack by no 70 Feb

No. 1158

Legation of the United States,
Peking, August 28. 1890.

Mr. Denby
to the
Secretary of State.

One copy to Mr Scanlan
the other to the Treasury
Oct 8. 90
Cridler

Subject

Reports forwarding of the
Imperial Maritime Customs
Gazette from April to June
inclusive.

No. 1158

Legation of the United States,
Peking, August 28. 1890.

To the Honorable
James G. Blaine,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have forwarded to you under separate enclosure two volumes of "The Imperial Maritime Customs Gazette from April to June inclusive.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Denby